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CONTENTS OF THIS NUMBER.

THE WEEK 229

EDITORIAL ARTICLES:

Maine and After 232
Whither Is Roosevelt Drifting? 232
The Fisheries Decision 233
The Permanent Official 234
"The Science of Poetry" 235

SPECIAL ARTICLES:

Miscellaneous German Books 236
Swiss Notes 237

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Proposed ex-Presidential Conference of 1861 238
Political Morality 239
College "Life" 239
The Sumner Bibliography 239
Alfred Nutt 239
"Swinging Round the Circle" 240

LITERATURE:

An Old-Fashioned Senator, Orville H. Platt of Connecticut 240
The Power and the Glory 241
The Way Up 241
Routledge Rides Alone 242
The Devourers 242
A Woman's Impressions of the Philippines 242
Haverford Library Collection of Cuneiform Tablets or Documents from the Temple Archives of Telloh 243
Acts of the Privy Council, Colonial Series, II. 1680-1720.—Calendar of State Papers, Colonial Series, America and West Indies, 1700 244

NOTES 245

SCIENCE:

Hardy Plants for Cottage Gardens.—Among School Gardens 247

DRAMA AND MUSIC 249

ART:

Cylinders and Other Ancient Seals in the Library of J. Pierpont Morgan.—The Seal Cylinders of Western Asia 249

FINANCE:

"Apathy" 250

BOOKS OF THE WEEK 251

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JULY, 1910—CONTENTS

Mathematical Creations ..... *Henri Poincaré*, University of Paris.
History of the Word Person ..... *Adolf Trendelenberg*
Sayings of Jesus in the Talmud ..... *Rev. Bernhard Pick*
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The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1910.

The Week.

Mr. Roosevelt's speech at Columbus on law and order was a word fitly spoken. That Ohio city has for weeks been the scene of criminal violence by strikers and of flabby efforts by the municipal authorities to protect the street-car companies and operatives in their rights and to secure to citizens peace and safety. Hence the straightforward talk of the ex-President must have done good. Mr. Roosevelt was perfectly explicit on the folly as well as the criminality of those labor leaders or unions that encourage or even wink at assaults and the use of dynamite as a means of winning a strike. He justly said that it is impossible to listen to men who wreck cars and terrorize a city. They cannot get and do not deserve a hearing for their complaints until they show that they are first of all law-abiding citizens. Even if they have a measure of justice on their side they put themselves out of the court of reason when they resort to violence. And Mr. Roosevelt was equally clear and strong on the duty of the authorities to put down rioting at all hazards. He had only scorn for a Mayor who would palter with riotous strikers, or for a police that would hesitate to use every power at command to bring them to submission. On this whole question Mr. Roosevelt has been consistently right, so far as we know.

Mr. Roosevelt's refusal to break bread with Senator Lorimer at Chicago was an obvious thing for him to do, but nevertheless was a fine act which deserves high praise. We cannot have too much of such stern holding aloof socially from men politically corrupt. And in congratulating Col. Roosevelt on the stand he took with Lorimer, we must add a word of special felicitation upon his now being in a position where he is free to make no compromise with sin. It must be a source of great relief and satisfaction to him that he no longer has to muzzle his honest instincts at the demand of party regularity or political expediency. There are men living to whom Mr. Roosevelt said indignantly of Mr. Blaine in 1884, "But he is a thief!" Yet because the party nominated Blaine, and there was no possibility of Mr. Roosevelt's being able to do good by getting office except through sticking to the party, he swallowed his righteous anger and supported Blaine. So during all the years when he sustained social as well as political relations with Platt and Quay, it must have been galling to him in the extreme to be compelled to give countenance to men whom in his heart he abhorred, simply because they had the votes and the Congressional delegations of two great States, without which his plans to bless the country could not be carried out. And when Quay died and Mr. Roosevelt sent a telegram in praise of that "friend" of his, he was doubtless burning all the time to speak fittingly of one of the most sinister political figures of the age, who had been openly accused of robbing the State Treasury, and whose trail was marked by the suicide of bank cashiers whom he had tempted and ruined. But from all those old trammels which held Mr. Roosevelt dumb in the presence of powerful political criminals, he is to-day happily freed, and we congratulate him on the new liberty he now has to spurn a man like Lorimer—after he has been found out and shorn of power.

The four Democratic members of the Ballinger investigating committee, and Mr. Madison, the insurgent Republican member, have gone on record as sustaining the Glavis-Pinchot contentions against the Secretary of the Interior. The vote taken, in the absence of a number of the Republican members, must, of course, be regarded merely as a strategic move; it would be preposterous to propose seriously to enter the findings of the committee, after months of inquiry, in any such way. The object was to compel action on the part of the majority members, who have shown an inclination to shove the matter over until after the November elections. In the meantime the action taken by the minority has had the effect of showing that Mr. Madison, as well as the Democratic members, goes the full length of declaring that Mr. Ballinger's course was such that he "should no longer be retained" in the office of Secretary of the Interior. It is to be noted, however, that the judgments expressed in the resolutions offered by Mr. Madison, and adopted in the vote taken, are more carefully limited as regards the grounds of the conclusion than was the case with the resolutions offered by Senator Fletcher, for which Mr. Madison's were a substitute.

In a sketch of Gov. Harmon in this month's *Review of Reviews*, an interesting quotation is given from an address delivered by him at the opening of the Law School of the University of Cincinnati in 1905. Referring to the relation of lawyers to corporations, the lawyer, he said, should not refuse to represent corporations, but "he must not forget that they, unlike his ordinary clients, have or may have interests which conflict with those of the public, and that his first duty is to the public, not only because he is a citizen, but because from it he has received his commission as an officer of justice." This is sound doctrine, well expressed; few things would be more wholesome than the effective inculcation of it in the minds of the rising generation of lawyers. And so far as Mr. Harmon is concerned, the interesting thing is that his practice has squared with his preaching. The sketch referred to points out the important responsibilities that have fallen to Mr. Harmon in connection with his corporation practice, and the ability and success with which he has fulfilled them; but he has never, it is asserted—and, we believe, with truth—placed his services at the disposal of any corporation in opposition to the public interest. The more one considers both Gov. Harmon's public record and his personal traits, the more does his exceptional fitness for the leadership of the Democratic party in the next Presidential campaign impress itself.

The Democrats of Connecticut have made a notable contribution to that rehabilitating of the Democratic party of which there are beginning to be many promising signs. The mere fact of the nomination of such a man as Judge Simeon E. Baldwin for the Governorship would be significant and important,

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but the unanimity and genuine enthusiasm of the convention gave to it a far greater value. Not since the demoralization of the party by the free-silver issue in 1896 has the party in Connecticut manifested anything like the spirit that was displayed at New Haven last week. And this enthusiasm was evoked not by any cheap appeal to mushroom sentiment, but by the prospect of a campaign for the election of a man of the highest intellectual and moral qualifications, a man who, if chosen Governor, will be sure to give to the State service of great and enduring value. It will be up-hill work to elect Judge Baldwin, in the face of the very large majorities which the Republicans have been recording in Connecticut in recent years, but the Democrats evidently feel that there is a good chance of accomplishing that result.

No result of the voting last week is matter for more hearty congratulation than the decisive victory of State Senator Bass as Republican candidate for Governor in the New Hampshire primaries. To talk of the contest in New Hampshire as a fight between conservatives and progressives is to give a very misleading impression of the struggle. It is true, of course, that the fight, in one aspect, formed part of the war that is going on all along the line between "insurgents" and "regulars"; but in New Hampshire, more than in perhaps any other State, the question really at issue was whether the people would support a corrupt political organization, the servant of a debasing railway corporation, or would register their verdict for an able, honest, and fearless candidate representing the cause of a vitally necessary reform. The result was a crushing defeat for the ring, the vote being about two to one in favor of Bass. And, as though to emphasize the value of the direct primary as an instrument of sound government, two men of national prominence and great political skill—Senator Gallinger and ex-Senator Chandler—though one was on the Bass side and the other against him, were defeated as candidates for delegate to the State Convention. These results cannot be dismissed without a word of sincere and hearty praise for Winston Churchill, to whose patriotic, persistent, and unselfish efforts this victory of decency, in a State the corruption of whose politics has been a by-word for at least forty years, is chiefly due.

The election in Vermont shows that 10,000 Republicans who voted two years ago declined to go to the polls last week, while there were 1,000 more Democratic votes than last year. The Democratic candidate is quoted as saying that the result was due more to dissatisfaction with the Republican machine than to anger over the tariff. If that be true, conditions in Vermont are different from those in other States where insurgency and dissatisfaction with the tariff go hand in hand. Be that as it may, the small Republican majority of 17,500 indicates clearly that there is every prospect of as Democratic a year as 1890. Then, too, it was the stay-at-home Republican vote that counted. This year there is every reason to look for a similarly large stay-at-home vote in States like New York, Ohio, and Indiana, where the Republican party is fairly torn to pieces by factional fights and the sharp division of sentiment between the followers of Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Taft. Strong Democratic candidates like Judge Baldwin in Connecticut and Woodrow Wilson in New Jersey will draw many Republican votes, but in a crisis like this there will also be many who will prefer not to vote at all.

Julius Cæsar Burrows, as a result of the primaries in Michigan, will retire from the United States Senate along with his friends and co-laborers, Aldrich and Hale. As he read the returns, he must have wished he had followed their example and retired of his own will rather than under the propulsion of the Republican voters' boot. It is particularly hard for him to contemplate the fact that he has been thrust aside in favor of "Young Mr. Townsend," as he calls him, an insurgent Representative who last spring was one of the leaders in the revolt against Cannonism. Mr. Townsend declared that Mr. Burrows was too old. Mr. Burrows retorted that he was "only seventy-three" and that there were many older men than he in the Senate. He further pointed out that as he would almost certainly succeed Aldrich as chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, Michigan would be sacrificing "her own best interests" in defeating him. But Michigan has decided she would rather sacrifice her "best interests" and have Mr. Townsend, than stand six years more of Mr. Burrows.

Less than three months ago, Mr. Sherman, returning from a standpat "convention" in Milwaukee, declared that there were no insurgents in Wisconsin. Now "the original insurgent," Robert M. La Follette, has carried his party primaries against Cook, his standpat opponent, by a vote estimated at 3 or possibly 4 to 1. From this it is evident either that the Vice-President was misled as to conditions in Wisconsin, or that Wisconsin standpatters have a habit of voting for progressive candidates. As a matter of fact, any other result so far as La Follette is concerned would have been surprising. Every other outsider who has visited the State—and the list has included Cummins and Dolliver, Clapp, Bristow, Heney, Pinchot, and Garfield—has declared that Wisconsin was as strongly progressive as Kansas. The recent primary gave proof of it. The only question seemed to be whether the Legislature would ratify the people's choice. Indications point to the selection of a majority of members pledged to carry out the primary's mandate. With the exception of the contest for Governor, in which the progressive vote was divided and into which the local option issue introduced complications, the entire progressive ticket appears to have been successful.

The tactics pursued by the Eastern railways in submitting evidence last week were, to say the least, singular. Their programme amounted to presenting gross totals and percentages of increase in wages and proposed increase in revenue through higher freights, while declaring inability or unwillingness to give the details. It was inevitable that such a course of action should have prejudiced the railways' case at the very start. Nothing could be more damaging to their contentions, in the eyes either of the Commission or of the general public, than to create the impression that the companies were hiding essential facts. At the beginning of this week's hearing there were some signs that a more rational policy is to be pursued in subsequent testimony, and we trust that the expectation will be fulfilled.

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The death of Lloyd W. Bowers, the Solicitor-General, is a genuine loss to the country. A man of great natural ability, one of the leaders of his profession, he had to a remarkable degree the confidence of President Taft and the other public men who knew him. It is beyond question that he would soon have ornamented the Supreme Court. Indeed, he would probably have been appointed ere this had he not been connected with the Government side of the highly important cases now down for a rehearing. His tragically sudden death again embarrasses the Supreme Court, and the Government particularly, in the matter of the Constitutionality of the corporation tax, the rehearing of which must undoubtedly be postponed. Mr. Bowers was a corporation lawyer and a railway lawyer, in that he was for years counsel to the Chicago and Northwestern Railway, and yet, when he gave up a large salary to enter the Government service at a much smaller one, no one for a moment insinuated that his previous professional engagements prevented his performing his new duties in an unbiassed and disinterested manner. It was a timely reminder that there are corporation lawyers and corporation lawyers—those who sell themselves and those who honor their profession by cleaving to its highest standards, and refusing to become the devisers of stock juggling and of ways to circumvent the laws.

It is high time that the question be squarely faced of how compliance with the customs law on the part of returning travellers may be obtained without making every American's return to his or her native country a source of humiliation and exasperation. Collector Loeb deserves great credit for making it perfectly unmistakable that the law, under his administration, will be no respecter of persons, though he has carried his inquisition methods, in some instances, to outrageous lengths. It should be possible, however, to execute the law effectively, and at the same time to treat returning travellers in a decent and civilized manner, as is done in other countries; but, in order to accomplish this, there must be a clear recognition of the fact that there are two methods available for the prevention of violations of law, and not only one. We do not prevent counterfeiting by looking into everybody's pocketbook to see whether he has counterfeit money or by searching everybody's house to see whether he has a counterfeiting plant in it. What we do is to make the punishment very heavy when the counterfeiter, or the person who knowingly passes counterfeit money, is found.

A study in comparative mortality statistics among college students, by William Roscoe Thayer in the *Harvard Graduates' Magazine*, gives a new application to the incidence of the wages of sin. Mr. Thayer has compared the death rate among bachelors of arts in five classes with the rate among members of the same classes who, for one reason or another, left college without taking their degree. Taking five classes between 1876 and 1885, he finds that after a lapse of twenty-five years, there had died, out of a total of 927 A.B.'s, 140 men, or 15+ per cent.; whereas, out of 299 temporary members, there died 93, or 32+ per cent. Not all temporary members have necessarily been "dropped." There are excellent scholars who come to Harvard with the intention of staying only a year or two, but that makes the case of the black sheep even less hopeful. Mr. Thayer does not want to generalize too rashly, but he believes nevertheless, that "the figures examined warrant us in concluding that dropping often implies more than mere juvenile inattention or whim, or than revolt against academic restraints. It seems to indicate a predisposition to bodily, mental, or moral inefficiency, which sooner or later, and usually sooner rather than later, results in disability and death. We all know temporary members who have done noble things; but as a group, the stars in their courses are against them. The fellow who 'could stand high, if he wanted to,' should be warned that his not 'wanting to' is an unfavorable symptom." Harvard figures continue to be merciless to the idler. The pretty legend that the man who loafs in college does exceptionally well in the professional schools was recently exploded. Now comes the apparent fact that if you flunk your examinations, you not only make a mess of life, but die at an unpleasantly early age.

Although the tunnels which now connect Switzerland with Italy have greatly decreased the importance of the St. Bernard and other passes, especially during the eight months of snow, it is still deemed advisable to employ St. Bernard dogs, as in the good old times. It is no longer customary to send out the dogs alone, with baskets of food and drink, but a man always accompanies them. Usually a young dog is taken along that he may learn his duties. These dogs are not really the famous old St. Bernard breed. That originated in the fourteenth century, through a cross between a shepherd dog from Wales and a Scandinavian dog whose parents were a Great Dane and a Pyrenean mastiff. The last pure descendant of this tribe was buried under an avalanche in 1816. Fortunately, there were found subsequently, at Martigny and on the Simplon Pass, a few dogs which, by crossing with mates from Wales, yielded the modern St. Bernard dog, which is physically even stronger than his mediæval namesake, and shares most of his traits. The loss of one of these dogs, as recent cablegrams show, is regarded as a calamity.

General Juan Estrada, having fought long and valiantly in behalf of the right of the Nicaraguan people to say who shall be their President, now makes the first tentative, timid proposal of a year's postponement of the election. Presumably Gen. Estrada is actuated by the highest ideal of fairness. If the election were to take place to-day, he is well aware that, with the halo of military glory still fresh about his brow, there would not be the ghost of a chance for any other candidate. The populace would simply insist on forcing him into the Presidential chair that has been so recently and repeatedly vacated. Estrada has consequently determined to wait until his prestige declines to the common level of Nicaraguan statesmanship and then take his chances. It would be hard to find a parallel instance in all the annals of self-sacrifice. To think that the man who might be President of Nicaragua for the constitutional term of six years at a handsome constitutional salary, should be content to remain Provisional President for an indefinite number of years at any salary he can get! No doubt the fortunate Nicaraguan people will count themselves still more fortunate, after fighting a year to secure a fair election, to have the whole troublesome duty taken off their shoulders.

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MAINE AND AFTER.

Democratic gains were generally expected in Monday's election in Maine, and it was thought possible that a Democratic Governor might be chosen by a narrow plurality; but the most sanguine did not look for such a tremendous overturn as the Republicans actually have suffered. They have lost the Governorship for the first time in thirty years—and even in 1880 the Democratic-Greenback fusion won only by a squeak and a "fluke," the State going Republican in the Presidential election in the following November—and that by a majority little short of 9,000. Until two years ago, the Republicans regularly elected their Governors by majorities of from 25,000 to 34,000. Even as compared with 1906 and 1908, when the majorities dropped to 8,000, Mr. Plaisted's winning this year takes on the proportions of a political revolution. Maine's vote is not large, the total being about 142,000. A gain of 17,000 on that basis is a very high percentage. Applied to New York, it would mean a Democratic majority of 150,000 or so. And the result in Maine cannot be explained, as was that in Vermont, by Republicans staying at home. The Republican vote fell off, but the Democratic went up. There was an actual change of parties by many electors. Even after due allowance is made for the effect of the liquor issue and for changes in the population in some Maine cities, the election of Plaisted by an unexpectedly large majority will be everywhere regarded as a political portent. If the Vermont barometer was set for foul Republican weather, the Maine indications are for something like hurricane conditions.

The Republican upset seems even more disastrous when we turn to the figures for Congressmen and for the Legislature. Two Republican Representatives, in districts which have been thought absolutely "safe" from time immemorial, are defeated by majorities of 2,000 and 3,000, while the other two pull out, if the final returns show that they have pulled out, by pluralities of the most meagre sort. This is sufficiently astounding, but the news that the Democrats have triumphantly carried the Legislature also, and will elect a United States Senator to succeed Senator Hale, is fairly amazing. As a dazed Republican in Washington exclaimed, when he heard of the Maine election: "If the Democrats have carried the Legislature, too, the world will come to an end."

Everywhere it is admitted that the sweeping Democratic victory in Maine is not due to "local causes." These concededly entered into the campaign, but did not determine the result. That is too large, too pervasive throughout the State, where the country districts were affected as well as the cities, to be accounted for by anything except a general cause. That cause was undoubtedly intense dissatisfaction within the Republican party. Specifically, it was dissatisfaction with the Republican tariff. High prices and the increased cost of living have made the people, even in protected Maine, restless and angry, and have led them to question the wisdom of the policy of taxing ourselves rich more sharply than ever before. The whole brunt of the fighting, at least in the Congressional districts, was against the Payne-Aldrich tariff. Democratic campaigners were even so sacrilegious as to talk of the advantages of free trade, and thereupon the Republican managers thought the Lord had delivered those Philistines into their hands. No candidate for Congress in Maine could utter the words "free trade" and live, they joyfully said. But they are wiser now. As for the Republican Representatives, Messrs. Swasey, Burleigh, and Guernsey, who had voted for the high-tariff law, they were savagely heckled by the most direct and awkward questions. On one widely circulated campaign card, such ugly queries were put to them by name as the following:

> *Why* did you vote to admit raw silk free and only place a duty of 53 per cent. on the manufactured article, at the same time placing a duty of 135 per cent. on woollen or worsted cloths valued at not more than 40 cents a pound? Was it because silk is used by the greater number of your constituents and woollen and worsted only by a few?
>
> Why did you vote to tax champagne from 54 to 66 per cent. and wearing apparel at 80 to 92 per cent.? Was it to encourage your constituents to drink champagne and to discourage them from wearing woollen clothes?
>
> Why did you vote to tax hats bringing not over $4.50 per dozen at 77 per cent. and those valued at more than $18 per dozen only 47 per cent.? In whose interest was this done; your poor or rich constituent?
>
> There must be a reason for *your vote.* Will you kindly give it to your constituents *before they vote,* September 12?

Look at the surprising figures from Maine as they will, Republicans are unable to see in them anything but a gloomy prophecy of disaster in the November elections. In short, we have today conclusive evidence that President Taft was right when he said last winter, with appalling frankness, that the signs were plain that his Administration was not popular, and that the Democrats would elect a majority of the next House of Representatives. The business world has pretty plainly settled down to that belief. All along, it has been in the air; the Maine election crystallizes it into figures which not even the blindly partisan can misread.

WHITHER IS ROOSEVELT DRIFTING?

That Mr. Roosevelt has appropriated virtually the entire Bryan baggage, with the exception of the defunct free-silver issue, has become one of the accepted commonplaces of American politics. We do not remember that the assertion has ever been seriously denied. But there is a matter of far greater importance than any mere question of originality, or priority, or plagiarism. The fact is that Mr. Roosevelt has done much more than make his own the specific purposes for which Mr. Bryan stood, many of which were wholesome and necessary. He has adopted Bryan's attitude toward the great underlying problems of the economic organization of society; has adopted that attitude and gone much farther with it than Mr. Bryan ever undertook to do. What that attitude is, it would be difficult to define; but its essence consists in a readiness to assume as a governmental function the task of remedying economic evils or anomalies, however deep may be their foundation in the inmost structure of our economic life, and however violent may be the departure from the established principles of our government which that task inevitably involves. In this direction, Roosevelt has utterly distanced Bryan; and in his Osawatomie speech he gave the clearest possible indication that what he has thus far done and said is but an earnest of what he stands ready to say and do in the future.

These things being so, it is extremely instructive to turn back in the record to the time when Mr. Bryan was making his first great fight, and when Mr. Roosevelt was making speeches against

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him. On September 29, 1896, in a speech at Utica, Roosevelt thus expressed his judgment of that agitation of which—apart from the lost cause of silver—he has now himself become the foremost leader:

> Mr. Bryan is appealing more and more openly to the base malignancy and hatred of those demagogues who strive to lead laboring men to ruin, in order to wreak their vengeance on the thrifty and well-to-do. He advocates principles sufficiently silly and wicked to make them fit well in the mouth of an anarchist leader. For the government of Washington and Lincoln, for the system of orderly liberty bequeathed to us by our forefathers, he would substitute a red welter of lawlessness as fantastic and as vicious as the dream of a European communist, turning aside from the American principles of government, repudiating everything which has made the name America a symbol of hope among nations. Instead of government of the people, for the people, and by the people, which we now have, Mr. Bryan would substitute a government of the mob.

Against Mr. Bryan and his programme many loud voices were raised in that famous campaign, but it would be difficult to find any utterance to match this for violence of denunciation and intensity of abhorrence. Yet to-day the same voice is hurling epithets and anathemas almost as consuming against everybody who fails to agree with him in the very views which he was then denouncing as abhorrent to American principles.

How far Mr. Roosevelt is prepared to go along the line of governmental domination of economic affairs was never so clearly shown as in the Osawatomie speech, and especially in this remarkable passage of it:

> We grudge no man a fortune which represents his own power and sagacity, when exercised with entire regard to the welfare of his fellows. But the fortune must be honorably obtained and well used. It is not even enough that it should have been gained without doing damage to the community. We should permit it to be gained only so long as the gaining represents benefit to the community. This, I know, implies a policy of a far more active governmental interference with social and economic conditions in this country than we have yet had, but I think we have got to face the fact that such an increase in governmental control is now necessary.

This opens up an endless vista of legislative and administrative interference with business affairs and personal activity, in comparison with which anything ever proposed by Bryan becomes a mere passing trifle. It is predicated on the assumption that whatever is wrong in human affairs or human relations can be mended by governmental fiat; that once we have arrived at a conclusion as to what is ideally desirable, we must grasp at the implement that lies nearest to hand and rush in with a remedy; that the complexities and difficulties which have beset mankind since the dawn of history need never have existed but for want of a strong arm determined to enforce a square deal all round. As ready as the most extreme Socialist to grapple with the deepest problems of the economic organization, Mr. Roosevelt differs from him only in indulging a childlike confidence in the possibility of solving them by the simple process of piling upon a central government more and more duties of supervision and control, and clothing the Executive with greater and greater powers.

Whether the people of the United States will be so carried away from their moorings as to follow this half-baked Rooseveltian Socialism is the great question of the day. Such a result would be impossible but for the unparalleled personal hold that Mr. Roosevelt has established upon the people in all parts of the country; but as matters stand, no prediction based upon the past attitude of the nation toward projects of radical change and disturbance is of any practical value. Confronted in the abstract with the question raised by such a pronouncement as that which we have quoted from the Osawatomie speech, nine out of ten Americans would simply dismiss it as moonshine; but it is not presented in the abstract. It is not a theory that confronts us, but a man. Ask the average American whether he wants laws passed that shall permit people to gain money "only so long as the gaining represents benefit to the community," and to retain it only if it has been "honorably obtained and well used," and he would laugh at the question; but the same man will applaud Roosevelt to the skies when he says he is going to see to it that these things shall be done. It is to the contemplation of government—and especially the chief executive at Washington—as the omnipotent source of all good, the infallible righter of all economic wrongs, that Roosevelt is rapidly accustoming millions of our people; and the great question is whether or not the old-time American sturdiness and common sense have still sufficient vitality to throw off this pseudo-socialist virus before it has done immeasurable mischief.

THE FISHERIES DECISION.

The full meaning of the award handed down by the Hague Tribunal in the Newfoundland fisheries arbitration can be attained only by considering certain circumstances of which the court and the court's opinion seem to have taken no official cognizance. Even Washington concedes that on the face of the award Great Britain has won a substantial victory. Of the seven questions submitted for adjudication the two principal ones have been decided in her favor. Of the five minor points decided in favor of the United States, several bear conditions and limitations; so that here, too, Great Britain has not lost everything. The two points on which she won declare that Great Britain is entitled to make local fishing regulations without the consent of our government, and that the three-mile zone from which American vessels are excluded shall be measured from a line stretching across the mouth of open bays instead of following the windings of the shore line of the bay. Under the American contention it would have been possible for our fishermen to enter bays more than six miles wide and three miles deep. By the Hague award they may not enter any bay, no matter how broad and deep it may be.

Here, apparently, is a heavy setback for our fishermen, to be thus excluded from waters which at certain seasons constitute the most valuable fishing grounds. But here, too, enters the highly important fact that this American fishery over which we have been at odds with Great Britain from the very first years of our national existence, has, for the last half-century, been no fishery at all, but a branch of international trade. We have, before this, quoted the succinct statement by a Newfoundland journalist, that "the practice of fifty years has been for American vessels to visit the coast and purchase cargoes of these herrings from resident fishermen who actually caught them and sold them to the American crafts as a matter of ordinary commerce." Hence to be excluded from certain valuable coast waters or not to be excluded, makes comparatively little difference to our sturdy American fishermen for whose benefit the heavy duty on foreign fish is writ-

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ten in the tariff. Within three miles from shore, or within three miles from the line of the headlands, it is the Newfoundlander who will continue to catch the fish and our own vessels that will continue to bring them into Gloucester free of duty as the product of American "labor."

It does not follow by any means that the Hague trial was a great ado about nothing. The facts we have cited concerning the nature of our Newfoundland fishery are, after all, extra-legal facts. Should a trouble-maker arise in Newfoundland, decide to disregard the practice of half-a-century, and plant himself on the letter of the law, he would have full opportunity to do so, were it not for the Hague decision. And precisely that is what the late Premier Bond did when he began his anti-American campaign in 1905. Mr. Bond said fisheries, but his primary object was not to protect Newfoundland fisheries, but to compel tariff concessions to Newfoundland by the American Government. The fisheries he used as a weapon of offence. What is regarded from the point of view of international law as the most important point in the Hague award, namely, the question of the three-mile zone in inland waters, was by no means the most important point in the view of Newfoundland's pugnacious Premier. His campaign took the form of a series of regulations dealing with the sale of bait fish to Americans, the enlistment of native crews by American vessels, registration at the Newfoundland custom-houses, and the payment of light-duties. On these points the court has found in favor of the United States, both specifically and in the decision that while Great Britain has the sovereign right to frame its fishing regulations without the consent of the United States, such regulations must not violate the provisions of the Treaty of Ghent by discriminating in favor of British subjects against Americans. Just what regulations are reasonable and unreasonable, the court has left it for a board of experts to determine.

Thus the findings of the Hague Tribunal bear chiefly on questions other than the one presumably at stake, the prosperity or failure of the American herring fishery. That industry will go on very much as it did before Premier Bond began his crusade. What the award does is to make the repetition of such a crusade impossible. With rights on both sides clearly defined, there should be no opportunity for the terms of the Treaty of Ghent being turned to uses essentially alien to the fisheries question. For us it is of value that one of the most glaring absurdities of our tariff system should be brought out into the open. For Newfoundland it is an advantage that her fishermen shall be freed from the restrictions imposed under the Bond régime on their time-honored method of earning a livelihood. For the cause of international peace it is of the highest value that a dispute whose roots run back into the eighteenth century should be disposed of, in spite of much engendered bitterness, by due judicial process.

THE PERMANENT OFFICIAL.

The statement that Mr. Alvey A. Adee, second assistant Secretary of State, on last Friday completed forty years in the Government service, brings up an aspect of the conduct of government to which we are apt to give but little attention. In the British service, the need of the permanent official, thoroughly experienced in the demands of a particular department, is completely recognized in the institution of the permanent under-secretary, whose tenure is entirely independent of the changes of Ministry and the chances of party. In our own country, since the civil service law went into operation, we have become familiar with the idea of a practical permanency of tenure in the case of the distinctly minor office-holders, but a change of Administration has, as a rule, carried with it changes of *personnel* not only in the case of members of the Cabinet and such other officers as are charged with duties and powers affecting public policy, but also of officials of a high rank generally. Yet there has never been a time—not even in the palmiest days of the spoils system—when there have not been certain officers who remained at their posts through good weather and bad, men whom neither Democrat nor Republican could disturb, because their knowledge, experience, and fidelity were indispensable to the conduct of business. This has been especially true in the State Department; but instances have been present, not only in every branch of the National Government, but also in our various State and city governments, no matter how completely given over to the uses of the boss and the ward politician. Anybody might be good enough for Comptroller or Collector or what not, and anybody might be good enough for a mechanical clerkship, but between the great chief whose name stood at the head and the crowd of routine workers, it was necessary to have one or two men who understood the business through and through, and who could be called upon to steer the way through any real difficulty. Had the spoils system not made a virtue of necessity in such cases, it would inevitably have gone to the wall much sooner than it did.

It must often seem marvellous to anyone who stops to think of the matter, how our officials, in charge of large and complex affairs new to them and foreign to the knowledge of the average man of intelligence in any walk of private life, can take hold as they do without making a mess of things. In large part this success must, indeed, be ascribed to the alertness, self-reliance, and energy that are characteristic of the typical American; but it is a mistake to imagine that these qualities can accomplish the miraculous. You can no more tackle the intricacies of diplomacy or finance or international law by mere horse sense than you can play the violin or speak French simply through the possession of the same valuable quality. A succession of men who, like Mr. Adee, have absorbed the traditions, and become experts in the methods, of international procedure is indispensable in the State Department, and such a succession of men we have, in greater or less degree, always had there; and the like is to some extent true in nearly every department of governmental work involving any complexity. Hence may arise, indeed, a certain danger of bureaucratic rigidity, of stubborn or interested adherence to bad ways when they have once become established; this has been conspicuously illustrated in the Navy Department, but it is the exception and not the rule. In such cases, there is need of a strong hand from above to break up bad practices, to pull the machine out of the rut; but that is simply one of the drawbacks which must be faced. We cannot do without the knowledge and long training of the permanent official, though we may, in some instances, have to guard against incidental evils.

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As the complexities and difficulties of governmental tasks increase, there will unquestionably be a great extension of the practice of retaining permanently in the public service officers of special training and proved ability. A movement is now on foot for permanency in the important postmasterships—an office the nature of which is peculiarly independent of all changes of national policy. It is absurd that a post of this nature, in the efficient administration of which every human being in a great city is directly interested, should be filled by a new man every four years or thereabouts, simply because there is a different President at Washington. Even more important than this, however, is another instance of the need of permanent officers in connection with the postal service—namely, in the conduct of the Post Office Department itself. It is true, of course, there as elsewhere, that certain officials of whom the public never hears are retained in important posts—and at small salaries—through all the changes of politics; but something more than this is needed. There ought to be an officer distinctly recognized as permanent, paid a salary commensurate with his importance (and provided with such permanent assistants as might be necessary), whose duty it should be to look into all the greater questions of postal organization and through whom, whether directly or by the medium of the Postmaster-General, Congress and the country should be put in possession of authoritative information and opinion concerning postal matters. In that case, it might be hoped that such questions as that of a parcels post, second-class postal rates, etc., would be properly disposed of within a reasonable time.

"THE SCIENCE OF POETRY."

One is forced to believe that poetry is, after all, the mere "frolic of invention" to understand the ease with which Mr. Hudson Maxim now turns, in a huge volume just out, from his usual business of manufacturing new kinds of explosives, to settle poetry's business once and for all. His opening sentence promises even more:

> The main object of this book is to provide a practical method for literary criticism and analysis, and a standard of uniform judgment for determining the relative merits of literary productions, and, further, to supply a more practical and efficient means than we have had heretofore for the standardization of poetry, whereby any poem may be assayed and the amount of its poetic gold determined and separated from the slag and dross.

With Herbert Spencer for his chief guide and the whole universe at his elbow, Mr. Maxim reopens the old squabble as to the relative importance of poetry, and taking exception to the "fine frenzy" attributed by Shakespeare to the poet, concludes that the latter enjoys no greater inspiration than the inventor, the mechanical engineer, and the chemist at their best. Indeed, he is certain that science is greater than poetry and, as the title of his book would imply, embraces poetry. With so much granted, it is, of course, easy to conclude that "nothing Shakespeare did can for a moment compare with what Herbert Spencer did . . . ." and that "any safe and sane person of education, possessed of the requisite inventive imagination, can either write true poetry . . . or else be able to produce such good imitations of the real thing as to render it difficult to discriminate between the counterfeit and the counterfeited."

Sometimes, it appears, a safe and sane person can better the real thing, as in the following instance, in which Mr. Maxim, correcting glaring errors in Hamlet's "To be, or not to be" soliloquy, has given his own version:

> How fear doth poise us on the brink of death,
> Between contending purposes;
> When some outrageous fortune
> Steels the leaden temper of the mind,
> To seek that last asylum from distress.
> To die—to barter with oblivion
> The heart-tire and the pain for dreamless sleep,
> Were gain indeed, if that were all.

It is clear that Mr. Maxim, in his treatment of poetry, is conscious of a cosmic broadmindedness; which is suggestive, as he thinks, of Sir Philip Sidney, of Julius Cæsar Scaliger, of Aristotle himself. They chose, for instance, not to restrict poetry to verse. No more does he. And although his own definition of poetry, which he is fond of repeating, "the expression of insensuous thought in sensuous terms by artistic trope," is only Shakespeare's:

> And as imagination bodies forth
> The forms of things unknown, the poet's pen
> Turns them to shapes, and gives to airy nothing
> A local habitation, and a name—

writ prosily, it strikes him as being revolutionary, and leads him to the following elegant classification: Potentry—or language of merely impressive sound; tropetry—figurative language, and synonymous, to his mind, with poetry; literatry—literal prose statement, whether in verse or not; and, finally, the various combinations of these three terms. Of course, any safe and sane person will see at a glance that here is no strict rule of thumb. And be it said in Mr. Maxim's behalf that he himself is the first to qualify when it comes to the actual application of his principles. Indeed, it is his readiness to hedge that prevents this book from being the *ars poetica* which he apparently fancies it to be. Fate has been kinder to him than his own intention.

Mr. Maxim's real forte lies in his power to provoke thought, though often in a direction quite contrary to his. So the classification just cited is bound to induce reflections of a stimulating sort. If we admit with him, for convenience, that the genius of pure poetry is expressed by figures as being best qualified to embody the illogic which is generally admitted to be the distinction of poetry as opposed to prose, it at once becomes evident that such a touchstone would deprive poetry of some of its most moving lines. Horace used figures amply, and yet it is not difficult to recall certain of his best in which the appeal—and a great appeal at that—consists merely in the commonplace put tersely; the same is, of course, true of Pope. And what shall one say of the exquisite profundity of Macbeth's words upon hearing of his wife's death:

> She should have died hereafter;
> There would have been a time for such a word,

if not that it is pure poetry? We agree, nevertheless, with Mr. Maxim that it would be desirable, if it were possible, to know more accurately than is generally known at present what poetry at heart really is. In the great Greek period there was an efficient sensitiveness in such matters; it shows itself in the precision with which poetry was adjusted, through a great variety of outward forms, to its particular occasions. A similar modern sensitiveness would work wonders, not only with original composition, but with literary criticism. It would lead, for one thing, to what scarcely exists to-day—a right understanding of the component parts of large structures, like the epic, the poetical drama, a philosophic poem such as "In Memoriam." That is to say, it would help to solve the questions: To what extent do prosaic devices

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and details enter into those types, inevitably? How far is the central idea of any one of them—admitting that it is poetic—capable of projecting itself? And what is the poetic principle by which certain utterances, in themselves wholly prosaic, are strikingly redeemed?

But to go farther, as Mr. Maxim would have us, and try to wrest the secret from every individual line, is manifestly absurd. Profitable study has, no doubt, been made of the vowel and consonant qualities of poetic works, especially of Tennyson and Milton; but to assume to grasp consciously the manifold subtleties of color, of tone, of lingering poignancy, of haunting suggestion, which reside in countless lines, is to be wiser than seven men that can render a reason.

MISCELLANEOUS GERMAN BOOKS.

The "Memoiren einer Idealistin," by Malvida von Meysenbug, chronicle the intellectual and spiritual development of an interesting personality, and at the same time set forth a graphic record of the revolutionary movement that agitated Germany towards the middle of the nineteenth century. German life in the latter half of this same century is treated in a similar way by Lily Braun in her "Memoiren einer Sozialistin" (imported by G. E. Stechert & Co.), which are written in the form of a *Roman*. The great-grandmother of Lily Braun was a German countess, with whom Jerome Bonaparte had contracted a morganatic marriage. The offspring of this union had been a prominent figure in the circle of the intellectuals at Weimar and had in her youth sat at the feet of Goethe. With this grandmother as her guardian angel the imaginative and emotional author had spent her childhood in a dream-world carefully concealed from the eyes of her mother, whose ideas of good breeding admitted of no demonstrations of feeling or flights of fancy. The girl suffered from the restraint and rebelled against a system of intrusion and interference little justified by her innocent vagaries. Surrounded by books and playmates chosen with no regard for her needs and tastes, she withdrew into herself, just as did the writer of those other memoirs, the great-hearted woman who befriended Gottfried Kinkel and Alexander Herzen in their London exile, and whose devotion to Richard Wagner and Friedrich Nietzsche is a matter of history.

Conversations between the grandmother and her friends opened to Lily Braun vistas of worlds then unknown to her: Browning, Ruskin, Morris, Darwin, Nietzsche. The old lady herself had been touched by the spirit of her time and had grown up to a comprehension of its problems. She read the proceedings in the Diet and discussed with her the questions of the day. As the girl matured into womanhood, she became more and more estranged from the other members of the family, who could not understand why she remained obdurate to the appeals of eligible suitors; but when the parents met with financial reverses, she became their chief support. Two events determined her future course in life. Her acquaintance with Moritz von Egidy, whose followers were absorbed by the Christian Socialist party of Germany, roused her interest in the social question. On the death of her grandmother, she made her literary début, with an article on the old lady's relations to Goethe, and thus found a new world and a new mission. The writings of Young Germany were of intense interest to her, but the personal idiosyncrasies of their authors, as also those of the advanced women of her country, repelled her. Through Egidy, she met Georg von Gizycki, professor at the University of Berlin, and a leader in the movement for ethical culture, and her marriage to him proved an ideal one, but was cut short by his death. The latter part of the book is so full of keen criticism of characters prominent in the Germany of the last decades that the reader leaves it with regret. For the period of the author's second marriage and her share in the socialist movement, which, in spite of the title, is barely touched upon, would have been certain of even wider appeal.

Kurt Martens, a novelist and dramatist of Germany, has written a little volume of essays and sketches on contemporary German literature, "Literatur in Deutschland" (imported by G. E. Stechert & Co.), which is full of suggestions to the general reader and which commends itself by its condensed form. He traces the rise and decline of the naturalistic school, discusses the enjoyment of poetry, the elements of style, the source of the latest literary currents, the poet as a social factor, and gives portraits of some of his most interesting colleagues, such as Count Keyserling, Thomas and Heinrich Mann, Gerhard Ouckama Knoop, Frank Wedekind, and Helene Boehlau. In the last paper he deplores the antagonism existing between the poets of Young Germany and society, and considers their hostile attitude a remnant of the old cult of genius, haughtily disregarding social conventions.

Those readers who by the title of the late Otto Julius Bierbaum's bulky volume, "Yankeedoodle-Fahrt" (imported by G. E. Stechert & Co.), were justified in expecting impressions of America or Americans are likely to be disappointed. These new contributions to the art of travelling, as the author calls them, are limited to Southern Germany, Italy, and the Orient, and our Yankeedoodle is but the name of a Mediterranean steamer. But the author's personal point of view and his whimsical humor fully compensate for this disappointment. No one familiar with Bierbaum's manner would expect from him a systematic record of any trip—be it an automobile journey through the Tyrol or a visit to the Pyramids. He always indulges in unpremeditated excursions, he has always some surprise in store for us—a habit which in his books of travel constitutes half their charm. He has an abundance of amusing anecdote, charming bits of description, and brilliant flashes of wit, which intensify the reader's regret that no more books from Bierbaum's pen are to be expected.

Erland Nordenskjöld, the son of the famous Arctic explorer, has written a book of impressions of travel in South America which he calls "Wälder: Streifzüge im südlichen Amerika" (Frankfurt a-M.: Literarische Anstalt Rütten & Loening). In a curiously simple, offhand manner he describes a trip through the mountains and the forests on the boundary of Argentina and Bolivia, and incidentally gives some vivid pictures of human life in those regions. His notes on the primeval forests, on the fauna of the country, on the natives and their relation to the Latin races that have conquered them seem merely leaves from a diary, but they are not without a rare spontaneous charm. That the Indian of South America is doomed, like his northern brother, seems clear to any one who reads the chapter on the Mataco Indians whom hunger has driven to the villages, where their physical strength is harnessed and exploited in the white man's factories. Among the quaint customs of the Matacos is the libation to Pachamama, the goddess of earth, whom those among them that have been Christianized call Santa Tierra. The author is a collector of prehistoric antiquities, and regrets that he was born too late to be the first to penetrate the realm of the Incas. In the endless Puna, where thousands of skeletons of the mastodon are laid bare as though it were a vast burial-ground of the country's fauna, he dreams of what life may have been a thousand years ago. Nevertheless, he enjoys the carnival tide which in this remote and somewhat barbarous world brings to him showers of flour and water instead of blossoms and confetti.

Max Dauthendey, who is known to students of the literature of Young Germany as a writer of verse so full of strange mannerisms as to verge on the ludicrous, offers one the opportunity to become acquainted with quite another phase of his talent in a little book of weird Oriental stories called "Asiatische Novellen" (Munich: Albert Langen). In the poetical extravaganzas of his youth,

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he was a seeker for unusual effects in wordcraft, for rare pictures. In this prose volume, he is a seeker for extraordinary plots presented with an amazing directness. The setting suggests almost palpably the heavy atmosphere of the Orient, and gives us glimpses of depths of superstition, barbarous customs, and occult wisdom.

Wilhelm Bölsche's literary personality can be briefly summarized by the term "scientist-poet." For he is master of the unique art of transmuting the facts of knowledge into exquisite prose of such a fine imaginative quality as to be more closely akin to poetry than to the essay. Every new volume gives evidence of that rare gift. In the introduction to "Stunden im All" (imported by G. E. Stechert & Co.) he suggests that his essays may in a remote future become what we now call Sunday sermons; for he approaches his task with that element of inspiration and elevation which one is wont to associate with religion. It cannot be denied that the style of Bölsche sometimes arouses the suspicion that he is attenuating solid facts, yet his talks stand the test of science. He treats a great variety of subjects in this book, which begins with reflections upon the first appearance of light and life, the subject being suggested by his watching the candles of a Christmas tree. Some of the papers are of vital and timely interest, as the one on the toothless flier, the *Pteranadon*, which he calls a primeval precursor of Count Zeppelin and the most perfect flying machine in the world. In another paper, he indicates what might be the model of the fireless cooker and the incubator in the genus of fowl known as the *Talegallus lathami*. His cleverness in starting with some simple observations and working up genuine scientific interest by æsthetic means, is unique. There is nothing like the writings of Bölsche in all our nature books.

Alexander von Gleichen-Russwurm is a thoughtful student of social customs and each of his books in which he has laid down the results of his investigations is a valuable contribution to the history of modern culture. For gradually, says he in the preface to his new book, "Geselligkeit, Sitten und Gebräuche der europäischen Welt 1789-1900" (imported by Lemcke & Buechner), the spirit of historical writing has changed, and the modest little notes devoted to the customs and conventions of human society in different epochs of modern history have become of paramount interest to the modern thinker. The book takes the reader through France, Italy, Germany, England, and Russia, from the Revolution to the present time, and offers glimpses of court life, bourgeois modes of living, of the world of arts and letters.

A fascinating volume of Florentine impressions and reminiscences is the book by Isolde Kurz, called "Menschen und Bilder aus deutschem Künstlerkreis in Florenz" (Munich: Georg Müller). By way of introduction the author, who is the daughter of the novelist, Hermann Kurz, and herself enjoys a reputation as a writer of prose and verse, furnishes a portrait of the "stille Königin," the quiet queen among cities, and compares her to the Mona Lisa. The book contains personal recollections of Böcklin, of Karl Stauffer-Bern, from whose little-known poems she quotes interesting specimens, of Theodor Heyse, the uncle of Paul Heyse, whose interpretations of Æschylus and translation of Catullus rank very high; of Karl Hillebrand and Heinrich Homberger, of Ludmilla Assing and Gisela Grimm. The sculptor, Adolf Hillebrand, is the subject of a sympathetic appreciation. One paper is devoted to Carrara and other marble quarries, and there are some reminiscences of the last earthquake.

A little book entitled "Schiller im Urteil Goethes," by P. Uhle (imported by Lemcke & Buechner), is likely to be a welcome addition to the bibliography of both poets. The compiler admits his indebtedness to the larger works by G. Portig and Th. Vogel, but adds to the quotations from the letters, to the biography and the conversations of Goethe, to the testimony of Schiller himself, of Wilhelm von Humboldt, and of G. A. Körner. The selections are grouped according to the mutual relation of the two authors as friends, as poets, and as men.

A. von Ende.

SWISS NOTES.

Neuchâtel, August 30.

By the death of Léon Massol, the bacteriological laboratory at Geneva has lost its founder and director, the university a professor, and science a useful servant. His father was the famous baritone at the Paris Opera, and an intimate friend of Napoleon III. It was on his way to witness Massol's farewell appearance that the Emperor so narrowly escaped being killed by Orsini. Léon Massol began his career as a railway employee, but afterwards studied with Reverdin, the Geneva surgeon, at whose instance he made a specialty of bacteriology. After working under Pasteur at Paris, he returned to Geneva, where he established the municipal laboratory. He was famous for his originality and caustic wit, as well as for his scientific labors.

The restoration of the Cathedral of St. Pierre at Geneva is now almost completed. As a memorial of the old building, M. Camille Martin, who is both an historian and an architect, has prepared a volume descriptive of the ancient church. It is illustrated by telephotic copies of the capitals and decorative motives of the interior. The work of M. Martin, executed with intelligence and taste, is an interesting contribution to the history of mediæval architecture and iconography.

The Swiss review, *Bibliothèque Universelle*, is just beginning its one hundred and fifteenth year. This review counts among its contributors writers like Henry Bardeaux, Philippe Godet, and Philippe Monier. Considering the intellectual activity in its larger towns, particularly at the universities, Switzerland is rather poor in periodicals of this kind.

A map of the world on the scale of one millimetre to the kilometre is to be prepared under the direction of the International Geographical Congress. The idea of such a map was first definitely suggested when the congress met at Berne in 1891. Albrecht Penck, formerly of Vienna and now professor of geography at Berlin, is the author of the plan, and a special conference has lately taken place at the British Foreign Office to complete the undertaking.

In Switzerland, much attention has been given to schools for weak-minded children. According to a report made at the seventh annual conference held at Altorf in the interests of these establishments, there are now thirty schools of the kind in the Swiss Federation. Most of them are in the German-speaking cantons; and most of them have been founded and are supported by private benevolence. At present, the number of pupils in them is 1,366. In certain regions the proportion of weak-minded children is very large. Indeed, in the canton Grisons, the welfare of the community is seriously threatened by the prevalence of cretinism; and not long ago measures were proposed to discourage marriages because of the number of children who suffered from goitre and idiocy. It is not only the actually abnormal who are made the object of special care. Provision has been made in many large towns for the education of backward pupils who have hitherto been neglected simply because they were thought to be incapable of learning. For these a "primary class" has been created to remove them from the discouraging conditions met with in schools where only more proficient children were taught. Of such primary classes there are now thirty-two, conducted in as many towns; eighty-two teachers are employed, and there is an attendance of 1,708 children. The excellent result of this system is that the teachers in ordinary schools are not embarrassed by the presence of those who are mentally deficient, while the latter are greatly benefited by the special instruction that they receive. The first institution for "backward" children was founded at Bâle, in 1888. The teachers in these schools have all received a special pedagogic training.

A. A.

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Correspondence.

THE PROPOSED EX-PRESIDENTIAL CONFERENCE OF 1861.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: Among the Van Buren papers in the Library of Congress are three appeals to him to take part in a conference of the five living ex-Presidents, whose object should be to secure an armistice with a view to composing the differences between North and South. One, dated Concord, April 16, 1861, is from ex-President Franklin Pierce; a second, dated Philadelphia, April 17, 1861, is from Benjamin Patton, who had been United States district attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania during Jackson's second term; and a third, dated Leavenworth City, Kansas, May 14, 1861, is from Samuel D. Lecompte, who had been chief justice of the Territory of Kansas under Pierce, 1855-1857. The second and third profess to have been addressed simultaneously to all five of the ex-Presidents, and appear among the Pierce papers in the Library of Congress, though not included in the printed correspondence of James Buchanan.

Ex-President Pierce, in the letter noted above, urged Van Buren to take the initiative by calling a meeting of "the five retired Presidents of the United States, still living," at Philadelphia, at the earliest practicable date. "Might not their consultation," he asked, "if it should result in concurrence of judgment, reach the Administration and the country with some degree of power?" His idea was to "take measures to suspend active military operations, secure opportunity for further reflection in the face of present dangers, and to save the most fearful calamity which has ever impended over a nation." None but Van Buren, he thought, could with propriety summon such a meeting; and he therefore concluded with a request that Van Buren should, if the plan met with his approval, communicate with Tyler, Fillmore, and Buchanan, and notify him of the result.

Van Buren's reply to this letter, dated Lindenwald, April 20, 1861, is among the Van Buren papers; but no answer to either of the other two is extant in either collection. It bears evidence, in its penciled draft, with many interlineations in ink, all in his own hand, and in its copy, in another hand, for ready future reference, of preparation as careful as that of the State papers and political utterances of his earlier years. Between himself and Pierce, the venerable writer said, there could be no difference of feeling and opinion in regard to the extent of the danger, or to "our duty to do all in our power to arrest the present adverse course of things"; yet he had serious doubts "of the practicability of making a voluntary movement of that description, on our part, with such action in the matter as we might think allowable." He protested that the "privilege of taking the initiative to bring about such a meeting," if there were any difference, belonged of right less to himself than to "the individual . . . who was the latest incumbent of the principal office," though, as a matter of fact, they might all be regarded as on a similar footing; yet he would unhesitatingly accept an invitation, if Pierce or any other of the ex-Presidents should still think it advisable to issue one, and he would co-operate in the meeting so far as lay in his power.

A commentary upon his meaning is found in his reference, in a letter to "Mr. Ingersoll," April 27, 1861, to his avowal in the course of a "hurried interview" at Lindenwald of "the opinion . . . that we ex-Presidents, whilst we held ourselves ready to exert whatever of influence our past positions are supposed to have conferred upon us, to promote pacification, should take no important step without communicating our intention to the Administration at Washington in advance, and receiving satisfactory assurance of their acquiescence." The disposition to support the Administration, he added, was every day growing more intense throughout New York, and any step which might seem capable of embarrassing them would be met with distrust.

Patton was, of all the three advocates of mediation, the most definite in his suggestions. He proposed a meeting at Washington on May 1, or sooner, if practicable. The first object of the conferrees should be to secure a twelve months' armistice; "for this purpose they should address themselves in person, and in a body, to the government at Washington, and then, *in the same way*, to the government at Montgomery."

The conditions tentatively outlined for the truce were:

(1.) The Southern Confederacy to suspend their system for the twelve months, especially in reference to the postal and revenue laws of the United States.

(2.) A national convention to be held during that period, and at a time to be designated by your Body, and to be composed of one delegate (to be elected by the people) from each Congressional district in the thirty-four States, and two delegates-at-large from each of the said States.

(3.) That the action of the Convention shall be embodied by the shortest constitutional process, as amendments to the Constitution of the United States, and shall be accepted by all sections, East, West, North, and South, as a final and absolute settlement of all pending questions and difficulties, provided, that every measure of the Convention shall receive the sanction of two-thirds of its members individually, and that its proceedings shall embrace an abnegation of all or any power on the part of Congress or the general government to interfere in any manner with slavery in the States where it now exists, or may hereafter be lawfully established, and also a provision for the return of fugitive slaves.

Lecompte outlined no definite programme, but merely suggested that the five ex-Presidents were "the most likely men of the age to suggest a possible peaceable solution of the strange disorders of our beloved country," and enlarged upon the distressing conditions of the day and the glorious possibilities of so exalted an undertaking as he urged.

The identity of the "Mr. Ingersoll," to whom Van Buren addressed the letter of April 27, is not certain; nor does his part in the movement for mediation clearly appear. He was probably Charles Jared Ingersoll of Philadelphia, Van Buren's sometime political associate and correspondent. He visited Lindenwald in the latter part of April, after Pierce's letter, and probably Patton's, had been received, for Van Buren says, in the letter already mentioned: "I have heard from no one since you left." The subject was discussed in the "hurried interview," as appears from Van Buren's reference to his own expression of opinion in regard to the proprieties in the case, and to his promise to let Ingersoll know of any change or modification of opinion on his part. This promise, especially when taken in connection with William Kelley's statement, to be noted later, would lead one to infer that Ingersoll had the project much at heart, whether he made any independent suggestion or not. He probably knew nothing, at least before leaving Philadelphia, of Patton's ideas, since the latter said in his letter to Van Buren that none but himself and his secretary knew of his having written, and that neither the letter nor its answer was to be published.

William D. Kelley, in a letter to Salmon P. Chase—cited in Rhodes's History, III, 367—dated at Philadelphia, April 29, 1861, notes an enclosed article which "discloses a scheme by which C. J. Ingersoll *et id omne* hoped to divide the now Unanimous North"; and adds that he knows that "the hesitancy of Mr. Van Buren, who declined to unite until he should be assured that the Administration desired to be approached in that way," has alone prevented the five ex-Presidents from asking the Administration for an armistice. "As this," he says in conclusion, "was just what the originators of the scheme did not want, it may have fallen through."

The enclosure alluded to is lost from the letter as it now appears in the Library of Congress Chase collection, but it was doubtless the following item, clipped from the Philadelphia *Inquirer* of the same date:

> Boston, Apr. 27 . . . A dispatch from Concord says that ex-President Pierce, in obedience to a dispatch from Mr. Ingersoll of Philadelphia, has gone to Philadelphia, and perhaps to Baltimore, on a mission of mediation between the government and the rebels.

So far as one may judge from contemporary newspapers, the project attracted very little attention at the time. Pierce's speech on April 20, the day when the answer to his letter was in preparation at Lindenwald, expressed the fervent hope that "some event, some power, may yet intervene to save us from the most dire calamity that ever impended over a nation"; but the New Hampshire *Patriot and State Gazette*, which reports the address, has not one word to indicate that the hearers had any inkling of what the speaker meant. The New York *Tribune* for April 29, 1861, also cited by Dr. Rhodes, is the only newspaper in which I have been able to find any definite mention of the scheme, even as a possibility. The writer of this editorial declares that any sort of mediation by ex-Presidents, or British minister, or anybody else, is utterly out of the question; that the only possibility of peace lies in the Southern submission to Federal authority.

The Farmer of Kinderhook had not lost the political insight of the Little Magician of Albany and Washington; for men of Kelley's and the *Tribune* editor's stamp brushed aside with contempt and indignation any arbitration plan as savoring of weakness or disloyalty; and men like Moses S. Tilden (who wrote to Van Buren on May 5 of the sense of relief which he felt at seeing the announcement that the political complications of the time were to be entrusted to the ex-Presidents for

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smoothing) soon lost heart, realizing that things were rushing away from any possibility of peaceful solution.

ELIZABETH HOWARD WEST.

Washington, D. C., September 4.

POLITICAL MORALITY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: The Autobiography of Senator Platt appearing in *McClure's Magazine* presents some interesting features. Perhaps nothing is so notable as the evidence it offers throughout to the simplification of the moral code to the single article of loyalty to the boss. The machine sometimes seems to be the object of ultimate devotion, but in every critical hour it is made plain that the machine exists for the boss, not the boss for the machine. I wish to call attention to the way in which the writer is either blinded by the splendor of the boss's personality or obscures the real meaning of an act to cover the boss's defeat.

In recording the way in which Garfield defeated Conkling's effort to rob the delegates to the national Republican convention of 1880 of independence by pledging them to support the nominee whoever he might be, Senator Platt says:

> One of his first acts in the Chicago convention was to offer a resolution which had been urged by the New York delegation, and which ran like this: "Resolved, as the sense of this convention, that every member of it is bound in honor to support the nominee, whoever that nominee may be; and that no man should hold a seat here who is not ready to so agree."
>
> The roll call disclosed seven hundred and sixteen votes for the Conkling resolution and only three against. Senator Conkling then submitted this resolution: "That the delegates who have voted that they will not abide the action of the convention do not deserve and have forfeited their votes in this convention."
>
> The three negative votes on the previous resolution had been cast by West Virginia. Mr. A. W. Campbell of that State was vigorously opposed to the second resolution. Gen. James A. Garfield of Ohio, who eventually was the nominee for President, but whose name had hardly been whispered, was quite vehement in his opposition.
>
> Senator Conkling, even while Garfield was speaking against the resolution, wrote a note reading: "I congratulate you upon being the dark horse." When Gen. Garfield ceased talking, Conkling, . . . said: "Please give this to Gen. Garfield."
>
> Conkling had thus early scented defeat for Grant and victory for Garfield.

The only thing that Senator Platt would have us see in this act is Conkling's prescience. But the interpretation heretofore put upon the act is far more likely the true one—that is, it was intended to check Garfield, and, by facing him with a personal challenge, shoulder him to one side in the battle for and against the office-seekers' championship of Grant.

A member of the Ohio delegation told me soon after the occurrence that as soon as Garfield sat down after defending the right of the West Virginia delegates, and of every other member of the convention, to decide upon their future course according to their own consciences, a card from Conkling was passed to him. Garfield flushed crimson as he read its message. Tearing the card impatiently to bits, he threw them on the floor. A member of the Ohio delegation put his foot over the fragments and kept them together till an opportunity offered to pick them up without attracting Garfield's attention. When pieced together, the message read: "Is this the first appearance of the dark horse in this convention?"

The difference in the phrases heightens the difference in the significance of the act. It seems probable that Conkling, adroit and capable as he was, saw the impression that Garfield was making, and desired to check him, to whatever end he might be tending. His failure to check him was big with meaning. For, though Senator Platt does not record it, that speech of Garfield's was the beginning of the end of Conkling's career.

ETHELBERT D. WARFIELD.

Lafayette College, Easton, Pa., September 6.

COLLEGE "LIFE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Many readers of the *Nation* will remember the article entitled "A College Utopia: A Fantasy," published about a year and a half ago (December 5, 1907), which presented, as a mere dream, the possibility of a college which should "estimate the tumult and the shouting at their exact value and steadily pursue the true aims of education."

There is another institution of which we are at present in great need, namely, an institution for College Life. Every college in the country now has a certain proportion of students who consider the "Life" the most important part of their college course. Such students are constantly hampered in their most cherished hopes and ambitions by the academic requirements, by the demands of old-fashioned, unprogressive professors, who even in this enlightened age still cling to the belief that college is primarily a place for study. The annoyance to which these students are subjected can easily be imagined and cannot fail to arouse sympathy in the heart of anyone who will give the matter serious thought. There is an increasing need of an institution the avowed object of which shall be to provide college life, unhampered by anything like study, an institution which shall have a place for all of the activities now carried on within college precincts except the purely intellectual; in short, a college without a curriculum.

It was made evident that in the College Utopia a strong faculty would be an absolute essential. But in the Institution for College Life no faculty would be needed. Thus a large item would be eliminated entirely from the running expenses. Given the "plant," the institution might even become self-supporting.

It would be necessary indeed to have skilled coaches in athletics, dramatics, and sports of all kinds, but these instructors the students could be trusted to provide for themselves without assistance from the trustees.

The fact that such an institution could not give the degree of B. A. may be considered an objection, since to many people the degree still seems a thing to be desired, regardless of what leads to it. But with a little thought new degrees might be created, which should be more valuable than the B. A. as indicating with some definiteness the work which had actually been done—for instance, A. S. (Athletic Shark), S. S. (Social Star), and various others would naturally suggest themselves—or, if unreasoning tradition is so strong that the sound of a Latin degree is still sweet even to unaccustomed ears, we might have as the highest of all Sph. D. (Sphæromachiæ Doctor).

Z.

Rome, August 22.

THE SUMNER BIBLIOGRAPHY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: The list of the published works of Prof. W. G. Sumner, printed in the *Nation* of July 21, was assuredly welcome to many persons who have followed Professor Sumner's work, but who have been unable to keep informed as to his contributions, chiefly because they have appeared often in publications of a special nature, not likely to be seen by the general reader. Since the list is given as being complete, and will be so accepted by many, I would have you note the omission of an article which it would be a misfortune to leave unnoticed. In *Collier's Weekly* for October 27, 1904, appeared an article on Socialism by Mr. Upton Sinclair. In the same issue Professor Sumner contributed an answer at some length. This answer, characteristic in matter and manner, is specially valuable; it deals with the socialist's argument which proceeds to reason directly from a mere recital of unpleasant social conditions. Professor Sumner's rejoinder is exactly what those persons need who feel vaguely that misery and unhappiness *per se* are evidences of injustice somewhere. Anything which tends to promote clear thinking and to give a correct perspective of facts upon that phase at which most persons are frankly bewildered, deserves to be starred in your list. It is worth noting that, although *Collier's* readers were told that a reply to Professor Sumner would be given by Mr. Sinclair in a later number, one will look in vain through the subsequent issues for any trace of it.

WILLIAM F. PETER.

Seymour, Ind., August 18.

ALFRED NUTT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: The tragic death of Mr. Alfred Nutt, noticed in your columns for June 9, is such a profound loss to the small company of students of mediæval story that it may call for another word.

Nutt's attitude toward mediæval romance was like that of Petrarch and the men of the early Renaissance toward the almost forgotten civilization of ancient Greece. Like them, he was eager with the joy of a discoverer surrounded by unknown treasures, and hopeful with the confidence of reconstructing bit by bit a vanished world. The Greek and the Roman contributions to our culture, it seemed to Nutt, had been weighed and estimated. Even to the Hebrew, the Arabic, the Persian, and other Oriental influences sufficient attention had been called. What interested Nutt was the contributions of the ruder Western peoples of the Germanic, and above all, of the Celtic races, and the possibility of estimating what those contributions were, not only by a study of the ancient documents, but by piecing together the fragments of primitive culture and folk-lore surviving in the re-

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moter districts of western Europe. In Ireland, in Scotland, in Cornwall, and in the remoter valleys of Wales, as Nutt believed, are preserved bits of folk song and story which give glimpses of the pagan culture of western Europe as it existed in the ages before the coming of the Roman legions and of the Christian church.

Nutt was, therefore, a folk-lorist and a storyologist, believing that only by comprehending the ways of modern Irish and Welsh story-telling can we understand the Celtic literature of the past. The contribution of the Celts to modern culture is a chapter of literary history which is as yet unwritten, but for which Nutt longed to lay foundations. The field is a dangerous one, and is swept by storms of bitter controversy, from which no investigator escapes. The chivalry and good nature with which Nutt bore the brunt of hostile and often ungracious criticism, as well as his unfailing interest in the human side of all things he studied, make his example a bright one to workers in the difficult field of Celtic and mediæval romance. ARTHUR C. L. BROWN.

Evanston, Ill., August 30.

"SWINGING ROUND THE CIRCLE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: This phrase, which is in common political use and has even passed into history, is universally used to describe the famous tour of the country that President Johnson made in 1866, and is applied to other Presidential progresses. Now this phrase of Johnson's did not originally mean any such thing. He used it *when* he was on that speech-making tour and before, and used it repeatedly, so that the writer heard it from his lips after it had already become familiar in the newspapers. This is what he used to say: "I have opposed traitors in the South, and now I am swinging round the circle and fighting traitors at the North!" meaning the "radicals" in Congress and elsewhere. "Swinging round the circle" did not mean travelling about the country, but changing front.

Not very important, but true.

E. R. FRENCH.

Sheridan, Wyo., August 16.

Literature.

A CALVINIST SENATOR.

An Old-Fashioned Senator. Orville H. Platt of Connecticut. By Louis A. Coolidge. Illustrated. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. $3 net.

In the Senate of Connecticut, at the outbreak of the civil war, a remarkable incident occurred. A tall young Senator rose and moved that the portraits of two ex-Governors, then odious for anti-Union expressions, should be turned to the wall. The motion was carried, and the vindicator of the State's loyalty was nicknamed "Picture Platt." One may doubt whether just this sort of orderly retribution would have been demanded at such a time by anybody but a New Englander and a Calvinist.

Orville H. Platt had passed through a stern school. His family, aggressive abolitionists, had been excommunicated from the Congregational Church of Judea, Conn. Young Platt, with his father, had often accompanied runaway slaves to the next refuge north. He had seen his beloved teacher, Frederick W. Gunn, later Master of the "Gunnery," branded as an atheist and abolitionist—terms equally opprobrious. He had heard his pastor from the pulpit grossly insult—the text was Jezebel—a generous woman who had come to speak for the liberation of the slave. In extreme opposition to the pro-slavery parties, he had joined the American party, the so-called Knownothings, and finally had espoused with religious zeal the cause of the Republican party. He had worked in his father's fields and in those of the neighbors for hire; had taught school, read law, settled at the manufacturing village of Meriden, where he soon passed to the bench; interested himself in all local affairs, and was universally called "O. H." Never eloquent, he spoke with pith and brevity, had a faculty of being right, and was readily promoted to the Speakership of the State House of Representatives. What turned him to his real career as United States Senator we may only guess. Partly, no doubt, as his biographer suggests, a definite sense of vocation, partly the chance that he was in pecuniary straits. Mr. Platt's business misadventure, which left him in debt to his life's end, brought out a characteristic incident. He was an endorser of the paper of a cutlery concern managed by friends whose failure left him deeply involved. In his embarrassment there came a good-sized check from a farmer-brother in Litchfield County, with the terse but sufficient message: "Orville, use this." Almost equally sparse was the reply: "Much obliged, Simeon, but I got myself into this mess, and I shall get out of it." Much of old New England is in this episode.

The Republican caucus of 1879 was hopelessly divided between Gen. Joseph R. Hawley and Marshall Jewell. Thus the way was open to a third Senatorial candidate acceptable to both factions. Mr. Platt telegraphed the chairman of his campaign committee: "Make no combinations or bargains, and entertain no proposals for anything. Let no friend of mine disparage any other candidate." The victory was a clean one, and the new Senator prepared to go to the special session. As he was driven to the Meriden station he said to a friend: "John, I'm going to the United States Senate; you won't hear much of a fellow named Platt for some years. I'm going to listen, and learn, and I won't begin to talk until I stand for something." Thus spoke the proud humility of fifty-two laborious years.

As a matter of fact, Mr. Platt never became a talking Senator. His strong practical sense soon taught him that laws were passed not by argument, but by shrewd manipulation of the Senate in action. It was often better, he found, to relegate a bad bill to the Greek Kalends than to oppose it publicly. One could also shuffle the cards in favor of a good bill so quietly that opposition would not develop. There was a complete absence of vanity about the man. Near the end of his life he writes to a friend: "What a man does quietly is never known or appreciated. For instance: I put an amendment into a bill to-day for the opening of an Indian reservation which is likely to save the government, first and last, if the same policy is continued with reference to other matters of a similar kind, at least $50,000,000." Probably no Senator of his time followed so conscientiously the whole course of legislation. His position grew to be that of Senator for the country at large; he exercised almost a censorship over miscellaneous bills.

The qualities of thoroughness and unselfishness brought upon him the most laborious and least conspicuous committee assignments, and for a score of years he spent himself devotedly upon matters of high public concern in which little individual glory was to be won. It was he who put the Patent Office upon an independent basis. Of the cause of international copyright he made himself the champion. For years he served on the Indian Committee, standing between the red man and his despoilers in the West and his ill-guided friends in the East. On one occasion he said that every Indian reservation might tax the ingenuity of the Supreme Court. In all his Indian dealings he showed a practical and humane disposition to go through the accumulated tangle of obsolete treaties and special legislation to the real needs of the race.

For years he served on the Finance Committee, but it cannot be said that his contributions either to tariff or currency discussion ever transcended the average wisdom of his party. It is a curious fact that, though to the end he honorably set himself against the national hysteria that led to the Cuban war, he accepted its results as providential and made himself one of the most potent advocates of the new Imperialism. An unequivocal service was the passing of the Platt amendment—astutely expedited as a rider to an army bill—which, while guaranteeing the independence of Cuba, reserved to the United States oversight of the foreign relations and domestic order of the island republic.

While deploring hasty and sensational legislation against corporate and railway interests, he was fully alive to the sentiment of the country and to the need of cautious reform. This man, past

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his seventy-fifth year, and for twenty-six years associated intimately with the specious advocates of unrestrained capitalism, became the unofficial emissary between President Roosevelt and the Senate, tempering the impetuosity of the one and the stolidity of the other. In fact, nothing more graced this excellent old man than his cordial admiration for a temperament so unlike his own as was that of the President. He died in his twenty-sixth year of Senatorial service, prematurely worn out by duties he was too proud to evade.

The Calvinist temperament is highly rationalistic, but only up to the point where the Divine paradoxes begin. Senator Platt was a hard-headed, clear-thinking man only when the mysteries of the Republican faith were not in question. In the protective tariff he believed with the fervor of a mystic. We doubt if he ever argued that question; he simply asserted the dogma. Some considerable knowledge of schedules he acquired, because these are contentious matters, and he liked to see business dispatched. But he has left on record the amazing statement: "I do not believe that an unnecessarily high duty exerts any influence whatever on prices"; and he bitterly opposed the belief that the tariff fosters Trusts and combinations. Sometimes his abstract devotion to protection led him into strange inconsistencies. He believed our tariff was bad for other nations; he always advocated the governing of our new Imperial possessions for their own good, and yet he talked President McKinley out of his purpose of granting, as a "plain duty," free trade to Porto Rico.

Again, on the issue of expansion, after the Cuban war, his attitude was that of a mystical enthusiast. As early as the Hawaiian imbroglio he had conceived the idea that our advance was providential, having to do with the spread of Christian civilization. To vindicate our right to govern distant possessions as we chose and without engaging to embody them in our own political system, he set himself resolutely. Here he never weighed the expediency nor counted the cost; our dignity, our duty, required the step, and those who opposed it were little better than traitors. He aided to impose upon the Philippines and Porto Rico that sort of taxation for which his ancestors revolted from England, and to Senator Hoar's fair question, "If the Republican majority admitted that government rightly exists by the consent of the governed," he responded by a sheer assumption that the annexation of the transmarine island was providential. When these religious convictions were at stake the facts counted for little. So when the Panama *coup* was under discussion, he virtually fell back upon the theory that the President could do no wrong. The persons who felt there was presumptive evidence that a dirty trick had been played upon the Republic of Colombia, the people who wanted the canal but wanted it with clean hands, he represented as sly obstructionists in behalf of the Nicaragua route. The providential necessity of the canal outweighed such trifles as facts and motives. In fact, nobody was so capable as Mr. Platt of making the Quays, Hannas, "Tom" Platts, Lodges, and Aldriches seem to be acting from the loftiest moral convictions.

We hasten to add that his limitations were of a piece with his training and his patriarchal character. Moreover, it is certain that because of his unwavering Republicanism the corrupt or merely opportunistic factions of the party would always concede more to him than to a more independent Senator. Where he shone was in conducting the vast amount of non-partisan business that generally is more or less neglected. He voted against the Chinese exclusion act, opposed the class legislation that sought to impose the eight-hour law on firms under government contract, sought to straighten out the tangle of Senate procedure, ridiculed the excessive sense of Senatorial prerogative, kept a restraining hand on such wilder anti-capitalistic bills as the Anti-Option law; in general, brought into the atmosphere of the upper house a refreshing element of sturdy morality and common sense. Under the sympathetic hands of his biographer, Louis A. Coolidge, whose tone is that of a fervent Republican, the story of Mr. Platt's career in the Senate from 1879 to 1905 has become almost a history of national legislation for that period. The record is skilfully made. We have noticed no material error except the misprint 1887 for 1897 on page 213 (the date of the Dingley law).

Senator Platt was one of the last of our patriarchal statesmen, trained chiefly by the discipline of life, representing a kind of ancient severity and virtue, men of deeds not of words, authentic products of our own unmodified Puritan institutions. He was at bottom a shy man, and really more at home in the Adirondack forest with his guides than in that Senate chamber where he was so much beloved. He was so modest that he was capable of imposing that quality vicariously upon President Roosevelt. Men of his simplicity and power of character are always rare. And of these, only an elect remnant permit one confidently to say, in the turmoil of public affairs, that they were invariably true to themselves. Of Senator Platt this could be said unqualifiedly, and he is likely to be remembered as a sort of Cato in a time more prolific of Mariuses and of Cæsars.

CURRENT FICTION.

The Power and the Glory. By Grace McGowan Cooke. New York: Doubleday, Page & Co.

Johnnie Consadine is a beautiful maid who goes down from her mountain home in "the remote fastnesses of the Unakas" to make her fortune in the valley. Fortune awaits her there, as it were, on three counts, and her trials by the way are no more than a maiden may bear. Her path in the sufficiently dismal mill-town of Cottonville is not made over-smooth for her capable feet; but she is upheld from the beginning by the extraordinary friendliness of Mr. Gray Stoddard. Though one of the mill-owning class, he is inclined toward Socialism. Quite the most original feature of the story is that this young gentleman does not turn out to be a villain, or even a weakling. He not only fails to take advantage of the poor girl's innocence, but actually marries her, openly and with rejoicing—a situation impossible in transatlantic fiction. But, of course, Johnnie is not a peasant: she is the daughter of the proud Southern mountaineer stock, and nobody's inferior in blood or mental power. She takes up the mill life for the sake of her improvident mother and a brood of brothers and sisters; and she feels herself inferior to young Stoddard only in point of mind and taste. She has a rival in the person of a lady of fashion, who has marked Stoddard for her own, and who makes matters as disagreeable as she can for Johnnie. There is also a villain, a mountain boy from Johnnie's own neighborhood. But Johnnie is not destined for defeat, and in due time achieves that power and glory which she has coveted. There is much adventure by the way, in which a motor-car plays a part. The mountain roads in Johnnie's region must be more easily negotiable than the creek bottoms which form the highway in so many parts of the Kentucky and Tennessee mountains. But the dialect is veracious, and in Johnnie's mother, childlike and shiftless, yet with elements of natural grace and charm inherited from some far-off lady-ancestress, is pictured a true mountain type.

The Way Up. By M. P. Willcocks. New York: John Lane Co.

The problem novel has its merits, as well as its defects; but it is a trifle disconcerting to have a piece of fiction recommended by a publisher as dealing with "three burning questions of the hour." The announcement reminds us a little of the four-legged lady we were once invited to behold, the poster concluding with the legend, "Twenty Pink Toes." One burning question should, it seems, be enough for the most daring novelist to tackle at a time. And

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there is really only one such question of which, on the evidence in hand, we should convict Mr. Willcocks. This is the industrial question: how shall the relations of wealth and talent and labor be fairly adjusted?

The hero, Michael Strode, is a youth of good stock, who, half-way through his formal education, becomes a disciple of Fourier, and determines to put the master's theories to practical proof. He breaks with the capitalist uncle who has been backing him up, and enters an iron foundry at the bottom. He rises quickly, and at the end of a few years is offered a partnership. In due course, he becomes owner, and eventually succeeds in founding an establishment upon the French plan. The experiment of coöperation is a complete success from the business point of view, but never really a success socially. So much for the burning question, in which the author shows an untiring and at times deadly interest. Michael's hopes, plans, speeches, arguments with friends and enemies, are retailed with painful minuteness, and at the expense of the story. For there is a story, and a very good one. It chiefly concerns Michael and two women. One of them, the wife of his youth, is a beautiful butterfly, with the means and the will for a life of pleasure. He applies her wealth to the furtherance of his philanthropic dream, with which she has no sympathy, and in his preoccupation denies her the little attentions and the social pleasures which her nature craves. But though of the butterfly type, she is not a weakling, and she has a modern conviction of her individual rights to oppose against his old-fashioned notion of wifely subservience. She withdraws her person and her wealth: the pair are not divorced, but she lives her own life—not a virtuous one. Ten years later, her selfish joys have turned to bitterness, and she takes the only way of releasing Michael that he may marry the other woman, who is a fit mate for him. The interest of the characterization is not confined to the inevitable trio. In many ways the most striking figure in the book is Michael's mother, "a Rabelais in petticoats," big-hearted, free of speech, untrammelled by the little conventions which rule the world of women.

Routledge Rides Alone. By Will Levington Comfort. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co.

Routledge was a Philadelphian, a war correspondent—no—a "word-painter of war," who wrote at times for the American press, at times for the English; following American and British arms from '94 to the year when the story opens, 1902. He was no ordinary war correspondent, be sure. "He could love India without hating England. He could be the greatest of war-scribes and despise war. He laughed at material possessions and bowed before breech-clout chivalry." He was more than half a mystic and loved to sit by a grate-fire, "murmuring the star-reaching OM." "All dimensions of knowledge were in his mind." Behind his words, "pitiably often," "shaped to meet the so-called needs of a daily paper," was "the master behind the narrator; the man who lived and moved in a wonderland that was a hopeless arcanum to the many; the man who glimpsed the temple of truth if not from within, at least from the gardens." His greatest friends were Jerry Cardinegh, "dean of the British word-painters of war," and Noreen, Jerry's daughter, an Irish pair who loved Ireland as Routledge loved Asia; they, too, were half-mystics; he finally went mad from memories of Irish sufferings, and in his madness shifted to Routledge's shoulders the blame of his own act of treachery to England, an act which, if we may believe the story, led up to the Russo-Japanese war. No small issues, it will be seen, engage the reader of this story.

If the most graphic part of the book lies on the field of battle, the most living part is in India. Routledge, frankly in sympathy with Indian mysteries, shoots a piercing lance into the Anglo-Indian system of administration, not hating materialism so much as scorning it. "All men, as all nations, must suffer. Europe and America are learning to suffer through their excesses; India through her privations, a cleaner, holier way." To keep him a journalist and a brother of occult brothers taxes the author's resources and yields us a rather over-fed story, stuffed with ideas—many of them very good ones—and with language of every degree of merit, pictorial, colloquial, journalistic, highfalutin; it skims on earth at times, and at others it is as if the writer had lain awake o' nights to coin the unusual phrase. He seems afraid to let any word stand alone, but must prop it up with epithet. It is an absorbing story, compounded of clever journalistic feats, gory battles, high endeavor, and cryptic thinking—an original mixture, surely—served in a swash of words.

The Devourers. By A. Vivanti Chartres. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

This striking book is accompanied by a word from the publishers about its author. She is the daughter of an Italian father and a German mother, both of distinguished connection, and the wife of an English barrister. She is herself a poet of wide Italian fame, and the mother of a little daughter known in Europe as a violin-playing prodigy. This book is her first English novel, and its theme—the career of genius—would seem, from her own experience, to be a topic which she might familiarly handle. She has assuredly written a book of singular charm and penetration, greatly alive with truth and tenderness, with satire free from bitterness, with sadness free from complaining, and a deliciousness of humor in portraying the small things that lie along great pathetic ways.

She writes of the geniuses who unconsciously and inevitably devour the lives of their families. She makes her point by telling the stories of three generations, so that her novel is not of the close-knit fibre of a single life-story, but is a family history. In fact, it is a succession of events marching on in a ghastly sort of pathos, always marching, marching, never completed, one life devouring others unwittingly and being in turn devoured patiently. Yet the writer is far too much an artist and far too observant of life itself to portray unrelieved pain. Smile, laughter, ache, go continually hand in hand. With deep and equal insight the author divines the little and the great secrets of the souls, relations, manners of men, women, and children; whether of yearning mother, irresponsible Italian lover, conscientious Fräulein, or fanciful child. Mrs. Chartres is said to write with equal facility in four languages. That her English certainly is her own is shown by a few eccentric expressions such as: "A caliginous headdress," "unverisimilarly," "etiolated cheeks," for example. They are few enough, however, to have almost a charm, as of a tiny foreign accent, suited to the unconventional course of the story, episodic, fantastic, if you will, but rare and moving.

A WOMAN IN THE PHILIPPINES.

A Woman's Impressions of the Philippines. By Mary H. Fee. With illustrations from photographs. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co. $1.75 net.

Eight years' intimate association as a schoolmistress with Visayans at Capiz (Panay) and Tagálogs in Manila has given the author clearer and deeper insight into the fundamental conceptions and the range of reasoning of those Malays than many an administrative official obtains. The official, because he is an official, mainly sees what the native chooses to exhibit; to the intelligent and sympathetic teacher, child and parent unconsciously and unaffectedly open mind and heart. The patient and competent explorer gradually penetrates that curious jungle of thought and feeling and by degrees interprets its defective, sometimes inverted, logic, and overcharged emotion. This has been so well done that these feminine "impressions" are a fair equivalent of sound masculine judgment; the book is of lasting value and also of immediate interest. As here observed, the Filipino character is par-

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ticularly marked by vanity and the sensitiveness to which that is akin; and it seems unable or indisposed to go to the bottom of those principles upon which permanent success in self-government or in material progress depends. Appreciation of clear and philosophic thought is hindered by an enveloping mental fog or haziness of definition. We may add, what the writer does not allege, that at its best Oriental intellection is difficult of coördination with the Western mind.

Children and adults are docile under control, seldom requiring corrective discipline; but at the first sign of weakness they are infinitely more unruly and arrogant than those of our own race. Young and old cling to their own opinion, regardless of authority or explanation, however well texts and comments may be memorized. Pupils rarely apply lessons which are counter to tradition; examples are the high-school youth who remarked, when electricity was under discussion, "But I can see a thunder [bolt] under our house" (which is raised on posts); and the other, familiar with the physiology of the text-books, who maintained that the diver "who is brother to a snake" remains for an hour under water without artificial aid. These were students whose schedules of study satisfy the tourist that Filipino and American move with equal pace through the secondary schools. The children learn easily, in the sense of getting by rote, but are not retentive, lack power of concentration, are acutely sensitive to criticism, and respond quickly to praise, all qualities that we associate with races of arrested, or at least imperfect, development. As a people, they are eager for education, not from real discontent with their actual condition, but because stung by the self-consciousness which race-sensitiveness develops. What they are acquiring just now is the critical, not the creative, ability; although it is the creative they so sadly need. Very acutely the author describes the controlling Filipino pride of individuals and communities as of that feminine quality which "is almost wholly concerned in demanding and exacting the consideration due to its possessor's importance." "Their practice, however inconsistent with their professions, is always consistent with their pride." Many, not all, "feel that, in accepting or rejecting [American assistance] they are demonstrating their capacity to do their own thinking, when in reality they are only asserting their right to do their own *feeling*." Diplomatically avoiding discussion of the Filipinos' aptitude for self-government, the writer shrewdly notes peculiarities of character which bear upon the question. Thus, as individuals, they have been devoid of experiences which mould political character, but as a race they are receiving an artificial impetus which increases their exaggerated self-confidence and veils their personal ineptitude. In her judgment, they have not vital convictions about liberty and self-government, for while abstractly it seems to them unfair that an alien nation should administer their public affairs, nevertheless the actual operations of that administration do not incite them to revolt. On the contrary, the alien occupation is a positive blessing at this time, although the very poor believe the form of government to be responsible for their wretched state, and that, in some way, the physical vigor of the Americans is obtained at their expense.

Besides modest discussion of grave principles, as in the challenge to attention thrown out by chapters eight and eleven, the numerous variations from our own habits at home and in public, which attract us because they are odd in our eyes, are noted and their springs exposed. Vivid description of unfamiliar scenes is interspersed with refreshing comment, not always solemn. In fact, this acute observer, whose abounding humor preserves her occasionally imperilled equilibrium, extracts all the vital interest to be found in vicious earthquakes, raving typhoons, and a cholera epidemic (where her moral courage casually appears), in funerals and weddings and merry-makings, in alarms of war and in ecclesiastical pageantry, as well as in the school-room and the trifles of domestic life. Incidentally it may be pointed out that her remarks on the Roman Church as an institution in the islands and on its probable future there are eminently sane.

We close with her judgment upon a social subject of grave importance from the American standpoint. It is that the young women "are coquettes, but they are not flirts. Their conception of marriage and of their duty to their own husbands and their children is a high and noble one," but their virginal life is full of pitfalls, due to the prevailing frankness of speech and the questionable jest forever before them. "The result of general freedom of speech, and the process of safeguarding a girl from its results, is to make a Filipino girl regard her virtue as something foreign to herself, a property to be guarded by her relatives." And in the presence of the vile moral degeneracy of even the merest lads, there seems no remedy but constant surveillance, until a dignified and chaste self-control is attained. "Happily even those who love us least . . . admit that the American idea of treating every self-respecting woman with respect is good," and where we are in evidence the standard of observable morals is constantly advancing.

The well-selected illustrations really illustrate. Unusual scenes teach through the eye, and these reproductions are good; but the most charming as a memory is the purple and gold veil shot with scarlet (to be imagined in the photograph) behind which the sun sinks in the China Sea, as sudden night falls over the Bay of Manila. Truly, "there are few lovelier spots than the Luneta" and its approach by the Malecon drive, when Marivales beyond the pulsing water pierces that flaming sky.

It is a pity that so interesting and valuable a book, which deserves an analytical index, should have none at all; and there is internal evidence that the contents placed at the heads of chapters were not prepared by the author herself.

Haverford Library Collection of Cuneiform Tablets or Documents from the Temple Archives of Telloh. Edited by George A. Barton. Part II. 36 pp., 100 plates. Philadelphia: John C. Winston Co.

To his volume of 117 documents from Telloh, published in 1905, Professor Barton has now added a second volume, of 94 texts of the same period, and of the same general character. The texts all come from the Temple archives of the ancient city of Shirpurla or Lagash, the site of long-continued excavations by the late Ernest de Sarzec, continued since the death of De Sarzec by Capt Croz. In 1894, De Sarzec unearthed an extensive archive at Telloh—the site of the ancient city—most of which was, however, stolen by the Arabs who dug there in his absence. Many of these tablets were thus scattered through dealers over the world. Haverford College obtained above 400; hundreds of them found their way to the British Museum, to Berlin, New York, and elsewhere. Some 700 were recently purchased by the Harvard Semitic Museum, while the Louvre fortunately also procured a large proportion of the find. The tablets for the most part bear an official character, representing the activity of the great central sanctuary at Shirpurla during the Ur dynasty (*c.* 2304 to 2188 B. C.). A considerable number of the texts in this, as in the former, volume are accounts of one form or the other, records of grain collected as rent, receipts, loans, and payments, lists of various kinds of material, wool for clothing, dates, oil, grain, flour, wheat, butter, cheese, goat's hair, and oxen, as well as payrolls, inventories, and bills of lading.

The scope covered is thus extensive and embraces, in fact, the entire commercial activity of ancient Babylonia. Already in the days of the Ur dynasty, and even earlier, the temples in the large centres of the Euphrates Valley had become great business establishments. They had large holdings of

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land which they farmed out. They dealt in flocks of goats and sheep, they loaned money, they had storehouses for grain, and, in general, acted as commercial agents. Special officers had charge of the business affairs of the temples, which at certain periods occupied a position not unlike that of our national banks. All these various kinds of activity find an illustration in Professor Barton's collection of texts, the value of which is enhanced by his introductory study of the material. He has added a translation of six of the texts, including a revised translation of the longest of all which was published in the first volume, and of an unusually fine specimen, belonging to Dr. Gould of Ithaca. He has succeeded in clearing up some of the problems connected with the notation of numerals in the old Babylonian period, by showing conclusively that a certain combination of two signs, one for 3,600, and the other indicating a multiple of 60, furnishes the large notation of 216,000. Multiplying this again by sixty, we get 12,960,000, which Aurès regarded as the source of Plato's famous mystic number. By the occurrence of such notations in actual measurements, their practical purpose is demonstrated, and it becomes evident that the mathematical tablets from the Temple School of Nippur furnishing large notations were likewise prepared from practical motives. There being nothing "mystical," therefore, in such large numbers, it is *à priori* improbable that there should be any connection with Plato's number, which is mystical and speculative. Moreover, since Dr. Kugler, the distinguished astronomer and Assyriologist, has recently shown that Plato's number is 10,000, the whole hypothesis of Aurès falls to the ground.

Included in the tablets published by Dr. Barton are two of a peculiar baglike shape with two holes so perforated that the tablets could be suspended by a cord. The little bits of clay contain merely an indication of amounts of flour, the date, and the seal with the name of the scribe who wrote the document. Professor Barton conjectures ingeniously that we have here the prototypes of our modern bills of lading. In this he is probably right, but whether these documents were intended to be hung about the neck of the shipper acting as agent is open to question. It is more likely that they were attached by means of cords to some other document setting forth perhaps some detailed instructions or memoranda. Our author has some valuable remarks also about the agents or messengers who were employed by the temples and by individuals. He calls attention to the fact that in a group of tablets giving provision lists more than two-thirds of the designations of occupations added to the names on this class of tablets refer to messengers and to messengers' assistants; and further proof that an elaborate messenger service existed in the old Babylonian period is furnished by the direct references in the texts that men in question came from such a city and went to such a city. This is merely one illustration of many showing how much new information regarding social and economic conditions thousands of years ago, is to be gleaned from these tablets, despite the fact that so many of them are rather monotonous in character.

The copies made by Professor Barton are admirably clear and neat. In this respect the second volume shows a marked improvement over the first, in which, from the effort to follow too closely the *ductus* of the individual scribes, it was frequently difficult to determine what characters were meant. A scholar who edits texts is expected, of course, to have interpreted what he has copied, and it is part of his work to make the task of those who are to use his texts as easy as possible. Several scholars have recently protested against the tendency in copying cuneiform texts to imitate the idiosyncrasies of individual scribes, to note all shadings and variations from the normal shape of the signs in any period. We are glad to see that Dr. Barton has avoided this pitfall in his new volume.

Acts of the Privy Council, Colonial Series, II. 1680-1720. Edited through the direction of the Lord President of the Council, by W. L. Grant, M.A., and James Munro, M.A., under the general supervision of Sir Almeric W. Fitz Roy, K.C.V.O., Clerk of the Privy Council. London: Wyman & Sons.

Calendar of State Papers, Colonial Series, America and West Indies, 1700. Preserved in the Public Record Office. Edited by Cecil Headlam, M.A. The same.

These bulky volumes are the most recent additions made by the British Government to its notable serial publications relative to colonial history. The first contains the entries in the Register of the Privy Council that concern the colonies in America; the second is a calendar of the most important documents in the Public Record Office for the year 1700, dealing with the same subject. The two series, one of which is in its second volume, the other in its thirteenth, are but parts of a common whole, and must be taken together, if one is to understand the working of the British organs of colonial control. At the same time, both throw light on colonial history and furnish a vast amount of detail regarding life and government in the colonies from Newfoundland to what is now British Guiana. The material from the Register is relatively brief, which was to have been expected from its character and which is evident from the years covered by a single volume, while that from the Public Record Office is very voluminous, probably having reached the maximum in this respect, though the fact that this is the first volume of the series to be limited to the documents of a single year is due in part to the liberal policy of the editor.

Much stress has been laid in the past upon the inefficiency of colonial management in England, particularly during the eighteenth century. How far this criticism is justified can only be determined when the actual detail of management is unfolded. Burke's famous sarcasm on the costliness and inefficiency of the Board of Trade, like his equally famous remark about "salutory neglect," is not always borne out by the facts, and the evidence which these volumes present shows that we have been too much inclined to base our historical judgments upon the comments of parliamentarians and political leaders rather than upon the facts themselves. The editors' statement in the preface of the Privy Council volume that "the lack of definition of function in agencies dealing with kindred matters was often detrimental to the efficiency of English colonial administration" is undoubtedly true, but we believe that further investigation will show that this factor has been made unnecessarily prominent. There are other causes for failure which have not been given their due weight. Both the Privy Council and the Board of Trade, during the period under review, labored faithfully and well, but their ignorance was often great, the sources of their information were exparte, their sympathy with colonial points of view was undeveloped, and their methods of doing business were crude, slow, and wasteful. The range of matters dealt with by the Council was very wide: they received petitions and appeals, financial and judicial, confirmed or disallowed colonial laws, aided in the drafting of governors' commissions and instructions, controlled appointments to colonial councils, appointed commissioners of review in boundary disputes, exercised an ultimate authority in respect of royal officials in cases of controversy with the governors, considered with care and concern the proper development of the resources of the colonies and sought to protect plantation trade, and to meet as far as possible the demands of imperial defence. The intentions of the Council were honorable and their decisions generally just, but they were obliged to depend largely on the opinions of others, either from among themselves or the law officers, the departments, and the Board of Trade, and it is not always clear how far they were justified in their confidence.

The papers calendared in the America and West Indies series formed the ma-

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terial upon which the Board of Trade based its representations to the Council. The Privy Council volume contains many such representations, printed in full. Few of these documents have hitherto appeared in print, though they stand among the most valuable sources of our information regarding British policy. Whether the members of the board were always careful enough in their recommendations to the Council can only be ascertained by a thorough study of these representations in the light of the materials at their command. The materials are now before us to the close of the year 1700. In the two series, the facility is now given to trace to its uttermost source the origin of an Order in Council relating to the colonies, and to judge the wisdom of the board and the extent of the council's independent activity. Mr. Headlam is proving a much more impartial and judicious editor than was Mr. Fortesque, many of whose prefatory comments were harsh and at times grotesquely unfair. He has also broken the spell that Doyle's very inaccurate work had seemingly laid upon English students of our history and has added considerably to the number of errors already discovered there. We approve highly of his defence of Bellomont against Doyle's unjust charges, though his dependence upon Bellomont's correspondence has led him also into some erroneous beliefs, as that Gov. Cranston of Rhode Island was unworthy and incapable. In fact, Mr. Headlam shows too little evidence of having used other sources of information than those that he has calendared, and in consequence he has not paid sufficient attention to the colonists' side of disputed cases. One apparently slight, but really significant slip is made in the preface, when Blathwayt is spoken of as Secretary of War. England had no Secretary *of* War during our colonial period. It had a Secretary *at* War, and a good deal of constitutional history is bound up in the distinction.

Notes.

The University of Cambridge has taken over the control and copyright of the Encyclopædia Britannica, and will publish a new and complete edition, comprised in twenty-eight quarto volumes, about the end of the present year.

Henri Bergson's "Matter and Memory" is being translated by N. M. Paul.

"Bernard Shaw as Artist, Philosopher," by Renee M. Deacon, is issued this week by John Lane Co.; also "Landscape Gardening Studies," by Samuel Parsons, who therein gives an acount of the mile of rhododendrons presented by Mrs. Sage to Central Park.

In the hands of B. W. Huebsch are: "The Sixth Sense," by Bishop Brent; "The Black Cross Clove," a novel by James Luby, and "Democracy and the Overman," by Charles Zueblin.

Fisher Unwin is issuing in the Modern Travel Series a new impression of C. Reginald Enock's "The Andes and the Amazon: Life and Travel in Peru."

Within the next few days the American Jewish Historical Society will issue the nineteenth number of its "Publications," containing a treatment of the Jews and Masonry in the United States before 1810.

The English firm of Williams & Norgate is publishing "The Truth of Religion," by Prof. R. Eucken; "The Constitution and Law of the Church in the First Two Centuries," by Dr. Harnack, and "The Scientific Study of the Old Testament," by Dr. R. Kittel.

L. C. Page & Co. are shortly to publish the following books on travel: "Under the Roof of the Jungle," by Charles Livingston Bull; "Royal Palaces and Parks of France," by Francis Miltoun; "Bohemia and the Cechs," by Professor Munroe; "Brazil and Her People of To-day," by Nevin O. Winter, and "Panama and the Canal To-day," by Forbes Lindsay.

Houghton Mifflin Co. will publish on Saturday: Part i of "A Beginner's History of Philosophy," by Prof. Herbert E. Cushman; "Prose Literature for Secondary Schools," edited by Margaret Ashmun; "American and English Classics for Grammar Grades"; "Selections from the Riverside Literature Series for Seventh Grade Reading," and "Selections from the Riverside Literature Series for Eighth Grade Reading."

Among the autumn announcements of Longmans, Green, & Co. are the following: "The Spanish Journal of Elizabeth Lady Holland," edited by the Earl of Ilchester; "A Quaker Post-Bag: Being a Selection of Letters from William Penn to Sir John Rodes, of Barlbrough Hall, Derby, 1693-1742, with Some Others," selected and edited by Mrs. G. Locker-Lampson, with a preface by the Right Hon. Augustine Birrell, M.P.; "The First Duke and Duchess of Newcastle-upon-Tyne," by the author of "A Life of Sir Kenelm Digby"; "The Rose Goddess: and Other Sketches of Mystery and Romance," by Lady Russell; "The Lilac Fairy Book," edited by Andrew Lang; "Lives of the Fur Folk: The Biographies of Redpad the Fox; Fluff-button the Rabbit; Grimalkin the 'Gone Wild' Cat; Stubs the Badger," by M. D. Haviland; "Captain Ferrercourt's Widow: a Novel," by M. F. Hutchinson; "The Little Wizard of White Cloud Hill," by Mrs. F. E. Crichton; "Clara Novello's Reminiscences," with an introductory memoir by Arthur Duke Coleridge; "In Forbidden Seas: Recollections of Sea-Otter Hunting in the Kuriles," by A. J. Snow, F. R. G. S.; "The Political History of England," Vol. VI, from the accession of Edward VI to the death of Elizabeth (1547-1603), by A. F. Pollard, M.A., professor of English history in the University of London; "The House of Lords During the Civil War," by Prof. Charles Harding Firth; "A History of Wales from the Earliest Times to the Edwardian Conquest," by John Edward Lloyd, professor of history in the University College of North Wales, Bangor; "A Soldier's Recollections: Leaves from the Diary of a Young Confederate," by Randolph H. McKim, late first lieutenant and A. D. C., Third Brigade, Johnston's Division, Army of Northern Virginia; "Franciscan Days of Vigil: A Narrative of Personal Views and Developments," by Richard De Bary; "The Cost of a Crown: a Story of Douay and Durham, a Sacred Drama in Three Acts," by the Rev. Robert Hugh Benson; "Non-Catholic Denominations," by the Rev. Robert Hugh Benson; "At Home with God: Prie-dieu Papers on Spiritual Subjects," by the Rev. Matthew Russell, S.J.; "An Excerpt from Reliquiæ Baxterianæ; or, Mr. Richard Baxter's Narrative of the Most Memorable Passages of His Life and Times," Sir James Stephen on Richard Baxter, with a preface and notes on both the above by Francis John, Bishop of Chester; "Christian Progress," with other papers and addresses, by George Congreve, M.A.; "Lex in Corde (the Law in the Heart): Studies in the Psalter," by W. Emery Barnes, D.D., Fellow of Peterhouse, Hulsean professor of divinity in the University of Cambridge; and "The Development of Trinitarian Doctrine in the Nicene and Athanasian Creeds," a study in theological definition, by William Samuel Bishop, D.D., professor of dogmatic theology and metaphysics in the University of the South.

A partial list of the books to be brought out this autumn by Macmillan contains: Fiction—"The Doctor's Christmas Eve," by James Lane Allen; "Jim Hands," by Richard Washburn Child; "Love's Young Dream," by S. R. Crockett; "While Caroline Was Growing," by Josephine Daskam Bacon; "A Great Treason," a story of the War of Independence, by Mary A. M. Hoppus; "Just Folks," by Clara Laughlin; "Burning Daylight," by Jack London; "When God Laughs," by Jack London; "Mr. Ingleside," by E. V. Lucas; "The Little King," by Charles Major; "Alongshore," by Stephen Reynolds; "Princess Flower Hat," by Mabel Osgood Wright. Juvenile—"The Horseman of the Plains," by Joseph A. Altsheler; "Hero Tales of the Far North," by Jacob Riis; "Two Boys in the Tropics," by Eliza Haldeman Figyelmessy; "Hearts and Coronets," by Alice Wilson Fox; "A Children's Story," by Zona Gale; "The Slowcoach," by E. V. Lucas. Illustrated Books—"The Great White North," by Helen S. Wright; "Cuba," by I. A. Wright; "Overland to India," by Sven Hedin; "Through Khurasan and Central Asia," by A. V. Williams Jackson; "Great American Universities," by Edwin E. Slosson; "The Age of Mammals," by Henry Fairfield Osborn; "The Conservation of Natural Resources in the United States," by Charles R. Van Hise, president of the University of Wisconsin; "Two Centuries of Costume in America," by Alice Morse Earle; "Green Willow and Other Japanese Fairy Stories," by Miss Grace James; Peeps at Many Lands Series, new volumes: "Ceylon," "Russia," "Denmark," "Paris," "Edinburgh," "Korea," and "Spain"; Highways and Byways Series: "Highways and Byways of the Rocky Mountains," by Clifton Johnson; "Highways and Byways in Cambridge and Ely," by Edward Conybeare; The Survey of London: "London—the City." "London—North," "London—South," by Sir Walter Besant; "St. Petersburg," described by G. Dobson; "Pompeii," described by W. M. Mackenzie; "The Great States of South America," by C. W. Domville-Fife; "The

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Charm of the Road," by J. H. Hissey; "The Motor Routes of England, Western Section," by Gordon Home; "Siena and Southern Tuscany," by Edward Hutton; "Along the Old North Trail," by Walter McClintock; "In Lotus-Land, Japan," by Herbert G. Ponting; "Persia and Its People," by Ella C. Sykes; "A Year in Japan," by Walter Tyndall. History and Biography—"The Autobiography of Goldwin Smith," edited by Arnold Haultain; "Memories and Impressions of Helena Modjeska"; "Twenty Years at Hull House," by Jane Addams; "The Ecclesiastical and Religious Correspondence of Gladstone," edited by D. C. Lathbury; "Essays," by Charles Francis Adams; "The Influence of Wealth in Imperial Rome," by William Stearns Davis; "The Letters of Richard Henry Lee," collected and edited by Dr. James C. Ballagh, associate professor of American history at Johns Hopkins University; "Lectures on the French Revolution," by the late Right Hon. Emerich Edward Dalberg, First Baron Acton, D.C.L., LL.D.; edited with an introduction by John Neville Figgis; "The Cambridge Modern History," Volume XII, "The Latest Age"; "The Memoirs of Benvenuto Cellini," translated by R. H. Cust, two volumes; "Chronicles of Pharmacy," by A. C. Wootton; "An Illustrated History of Lady Emma Hamilton," by Julia Frankau, two vols.; "Princess Helene Von Racowitza, an Autobiography," authorized translation from the German by Cecil Mar; "The Life and Letters of Alexander Macmillan," by Charles L. Graves; "The Mediæval Mind," by Henry Osborn Taylor, two vols.; "Life in the Roman World of Nero and St. Paul," by T. G. Tucker, Litt.D.; "The Sea Kings of Crete and the Prehistoric Civilization of Greece," by the Rev. James Baikie; "The Life of Benjamin Disraeli," to be published in three or four 8vo volumes, Volume I to appear at once. Politics and Economics—"The American Commonwealth," by James Bryce, new and revised edition in two vols; American Social Progress Series: "Governmental Action for Social Welfare," by Jeremiah W. Jenks, professor of political economy and politics at Cornell University; "Social Insurance; A Program for Social Reform," by Henry R. Seager, professor of political economy at Columbia University; The Citizen's Library: "Great Cities in America, Their Problems and Their Government," by Delos F. Wilcox; "Child Problems," by George B. Mangold, Ph D.; "Wage-Earning Women," by Annie Marion MacLean, professor of sociology in Adelphi College; "The Conflict of Colour," by B. L. Putnam Weale; "The Income Tax," by Edwin R. A. Seligman. Literature and Drama—"Anathema," by Leonid Andreyev, translated by Herman Bernstein; "The Nigger," by Edward Sheldon; "Pietro of Siena," by Stephen Phillips; "Theft," by Jack London; "Italian Fantasies," by Israel Zangwill; "Poems," by Mrs. Schuyler Van Rensselaer; "A History of Classical Philology," by Harry Thurston Peck, Ph.D., LL.D.; "Golden Treasury of American Songs and Lyrics," edited by Prof. Curtis Hidden Page of Columbia University; "The Second Post," by E. V. Lucas; "Savoy Operas," second series, with illustrations by W. Russell Flint; "Works of Walter Pater," uniform edition in ten volumes.

J. M. Lear, of the State Normal School, Farmville, Va., is engaged in writing a biographical sketch of the Hon. Charles Fenton Mercer and would be glad to hear from any one who has letters written either to Mercer or by him.

Sir James Murray, editor of the Oxford English Dictionary, writes to us to say that about 1890 there was sent to him a cutting from an American journal, containing a humorous poem on the different pronunciations of depot, ending somewhat thus:

> So all the quarrel about depot
> Was but a tempest in a teapot.

This cutting has unfortunately been mislaid, and Sir James begs that any one who can will send him a copy of the poem, and the date of its appearance. He would also be glad of any early example of the phrase "tempest in a teapot" (for which the British equivalent appears to be "storm in a teacup"). Address Sir James Murray, Oxford, England.

C. N. Kendall has made a volume of selections which he entitles "Travels in History by Mark Twain" (Harper). The book is designed for "home and supplementary reading in the sixth, seventh, and eighth grades." We are not at all sure that Mark Twain should be introduced into any course of school reading, but for voluntary pleasure he is excellent, even when he writes history.

"The Health of the City," by Hollis Godfrey (Houghton Mifflin), is a scientific consideration of problems of city life, such as the quality of food, water, and ice supply, disposal of wastes, protection against infection, adequate provision of sunlight and air, the suppression of unnecessary noise, and the maintenance of cheerful and healthy living conditions. The book is the outcome of several years of study in this country and in Europe, which have evidently been well bestowed. A suggestive and inspiring feature is the account given of what European cities are doing to improve living conditions.

"The Dethronement of the City Boss," by John J. Hamilton (Funk & Wagnalls), is an enthusiastic and uncritical account of the commission plan of city government, as modified by provisions for the initiative, referendum, and recall. Mr. Hamilton exhibits a striking record of good results, but his praises are somewhat too much in the style of panegyric employed in the proprietary medicine trade, and the work is chiefly useful as a collection of data. It gives a list of sixty-seven cities which have adopted the commission plan, or, like Buffalo, have expressed by popular vote a desire to do so. An appendix gives the text of the Des Moines charter, and a text of the judicial decision upholding the charter as constitutionally valid.

In "The Russian Road to China," by Lindon Bates, jr. (Houghton Mifflin Co.), history and travel are linked together. At the beginning we are told how the Cossacks during the past five centuries blazed the way across the Urals and over the Siberian steppes to the point east of Lake Baikal where the ancient post road starts for the frontier of China. Then follows a description of life on board the Siberian express, in which are given some interesting conversations with fellow travellers, former convicts, contractors, Russian officials, and engineers. A stop was made at Irkutsk, and in a chapter devoted to incidents of the visit there is an entertaining account of the home and family of the leading banker. As it was the winter time, the journey from the railway to Urga in Mongolia was taken over a snow-covered country by sledge and tarantass, and from the description of this part of the trip one gets a most realistic impression of life in the village homes of the Russians, and the tents of the Tatars, as well as of many customs of the people. At the frontier is the unique trading city, Maimachen, "the unguarded back door to China"—unique because it is womanless. "It is the sentence passed upon the generations of Chinese who have gone to Mongolia that no woman of their race shall pass the Wall. And so it must remain, for never a home will be founded till China, the unchanging, shall change." The narrative part ends with Urga, "the Holy City of Mongolia," the reason for which title is shown by the following incident. In a Russian droshky, preceded and followed by a body guard of horsemen, is seated "a clean-shaven, silk-robed man with puffy cheeks and tired eyes. The European watch which he carries hangs in anomalous awkwardness at the breast of his robe. Most turn their backs to him in Oriental honoring; many prostrate themselves in the snow; every horseman in the square has dismounted. . . . 'Who is it?' we ask, as the last galloper rides by. The Russian looks at us as an old Roman might, if in the Forum we had not recognized Cæsar. 'That! That's Gigin, the Living God! That's Buddha come back to earth—Gigin!'" The closing chapters are historical, in one of which there is a brief account of the recent evolution of Russia, especially as shown in the rise of the Duma. In others there are the story of the Mongol hordes from earliest time, and a sketch of some of the present conditions in China. There are forty-six illustrations, including a picture of the Buddha and a map of Asia. But there is no index, which is strange, considering the numerous references to noteworthy facts and persons in history.

Under the title of "The Cell of Self-Knowledge" (suggested by St. Catherine of Siena's *la cella del cognoscimento di noi*) Edmund G. Gardner has edited Pepwell's seven early English mystical treatises for the New Mediæval Library of Duffield & Co. The original was printed by Henry Pepwell in 1521, but contains material of a considerably earlier date. The first of the seven treatises is a translation and paraphrase of a minor work of Richard of St. Victor's of the twelfth century. This is followed by a set of devotional sayings from the life of St. Catherine, a fragment from the life of Margery Kempe, Walter Hilton's "Song of the Angels," and three other mystical letters which Mr. Gardner attributes "to an unknown writer of the second part of the fourteenth century, who 'marks a middle point between Rolle and Hilton.'" The text is largely and wisely modernized, though the editor has left enough of the old forms to preserve something of mediæval quaintness. He has, too, adopted occasional readings from earlier manuscripts in place of those of Pepwell, taking in this, perhaps, an unnecessary

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liberty with his material. As for the substance of the book, with its strange sound of forgotten, or almost forgotten, emotions, we reckon it something more than quaint. To turn from our present bustling optimism to Margery Kempe's belief "that thinking, weeping, and high contemplation is the best life in earth"; or from our absorption in humanity to St. Catherine's saying that "a soul which is verily united to God perceiveth not, seeth not, nor loveth not herself, nor none other soul, nor hath no mind of no creature but only on God"—is, at least, to be shocked for a moment out of a narrow self-complaisancy, even if the reader feels nothing of Richard of St. Victor's "homeliness" between God and a man's soul. Withal there is a touch of Aristotelean moderation in most of the treatises, especially in the "Epistle of Discretion," with its careful advice to a troubled inquirer:

> For silence is not God, nor speaking is not God; fasting is not God, nor eating is not God; onliness [solitude] is not God, nor company is not God; nor yet any of all the other such two contraries. He is hid between them, and may not be found by any work of thy soul, but all only by love of thine heart.

The third and fourth volumes of Lord Broughton's "Recollections of a Long Life" (Scribner) have not the dramatic interest of their predecessors. There is nothing in them equal in interest to the earlier vivid reminiscences of Napoleon, nothing so important as the discussion of Byron's character, and of his relation to Lady Byron. Of Byron, indeed, we still see something in the third volume, which contains numerous reports and memoranda in regard to his Grecian expedition, and death; and at the end there is an appendix giving a narrative of "The Destruction of Lord Byron's Memoirs," which was written down by Hobhouse (Lord Broughton) in 1825, immediately after the event, and which represents Moore as shuffling and tricky and really forced to burn the document against his desire. The heart of the present volumes is in the years of the Reform Bill. From his first entrance in Parliament Hobhouse had concerned himself with various measures of reform, such as universal suffrage, the ballot, short Parliaments, hours of infant labor. He was for the most part allied with the Whigs, but in his aspirations went far beyond what the leaders of that party desired, and indeed could on occasion declare emphatically that he "was no Whig." Those who know the history of the Reform Bill will find much to interest them in his notes on the men and measures of those years. There is in his memoranda no considerable addition to our information in regard to the larger aspects of the movement, but the ejaculations and criticisms of the writer seem sometimes to bring us into the very midst of the contest. Thus we see Hobhouse refusing to attend the funeral of Canning, because he was unwilling to honor a man "who a little before his death said that he would, as he had always done, oppose Reform of Parliament to the last"; and, as late as February 9, 1832, we hear Lord Grey exclaiming, "D——n Reform! I wish I had never touched it"—whereat one of the stalwarts remarks: "A fine fellow, whom we are trying to make a great man of against his will (*bon gré, mal gré*)!" Hobhouse was a good hater, and he is never more vivacious than when he has an enemy to deal with. Thurlow he particularly disliked, and this is how he reports the Holland House character of that tyrant of the bench:

> Both Tierney and Lord Holland said he was the grossest impostor and greatest humbug that ever lived: no lawyer, no scholar, not a well-read man, and with no intellectual quality, but a humorous turn of mind, which he employed in browbeating and sarcasm. His large eyebrows made him look awful, and Charles Fox used to say: "To be sure, no man was ever so wise as Thurlow looks." He was, they said, a complete charlatan, and always studied effect. When at Woburn he wore a large broad-brimmed hat at breakfast, under pretext of fear of catching cold.

The great Library of Congress edition of the "Journals of the Continental Congress" (Government Printing Office) passes, with its sixteenth volume, under the editorship of Gaillard Hunt, the successor of Worthington C. Ford, the editor of the previous volumes, as chief of the manuscripts division. Happily, the change means no alteration of editorial method. The period covered by the present volume, January 1 to May 5, 1780, is rich in historical material, though the more important achievements come later in the year. Throughout the year, the shortage of supplies and money was acute. In January there was no money for clothing, notwithstanding the necessities of the troops; two months later the supply of bread was nearly exhausted; while on April 4 a committee reported an empty treasury, "and scarce any provisions in the public magazines." A renewed attempt in January to control prices, of course, failed. To add to the burden of anxiety, Luzerne, the French minister, on January 28, warned Congress that armed intervention to end the war was threatened, and that Spain would claim the exclusive right of navigating the Mississippi, and a right to acquire, in whole or in part, the territory between the river and the "proclamation line" of 1763. Nevertheless, Congress pushed on its work of national direction and military and financial reorganization. In January a court of appeals for admiralty cases was established. On the 18th of March provision was made for issuing "new tenor" bills in place of the worthless continental currency; a difficult and delicate operation, which was eventually carried to success. On the 27th of March Congress received an elaborate report on the reorganization of the Quartermaster Department, and in April appointed a committee to plan with Washington a general reconstitution of the army. Charles Lee was finally got rid of on January 10, after addressing to Congress an insulting letter, an act for which, however, he later apologized.

The annual congress of the National Society for the History of the Italian Risorgimento will he held in Venice September 25-28.

The Italian Society for the Progress of the Sciences is now arranging for its fourth annual reunion to be held in Naples October 16-22, under the presidency of the celebrated professor of chemistry, Senator Giacomo Ciamician of the University of Bologna. The primary aim of the society, which was incorporated by royal decree in 1908 and numbers in its membership all the ablest scientists of Italy, is to be found in the subject of Senator Ciamician's inaugural address, "The Co-operation of the Sciences." Foreign scientists are cordially welcomed at the meetings.

The 10th of August was the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Count Camillo Benso di Cavour, Italy's great statesman, perhaps the ablest of the makers of the Europe of to-day. As in the case of Mazzini's anniversary in 1905 and Garibaldi's anniversary in 1907, the day was decreed a national holiday and there was the usual abundant speech-making, inauguration of tablets, and illumination throughout Italy. Unfortunately the commemorative character of the day was marred by some orators, who sought to make political capital on the occasion by discovering their own pet policies in the mind of Cavour; even the prime minister Luzzati, in his speech before the king in the historic chamber of deputies in Turin, found opportunity for a fling at the Italian middle class of to-day, who have been annoying him of late by claiming adequate government protection in the agrarian strikes of the Romagna. In Turin it seemed as if the capital had returned to take up there its abode, such was the concourse of senators, deputies, and court functionaries. In Rome, on the contrary, little was done; a manifesto of the liberal societies there was prohibited because it contrasted the government of Cavour with the conduct of the present government, to the detriment of the latter. The customary quantity of commemorative articles have not been wanting; for weeks past the newspapers and reviews have been filled with them, some of which contain new documents of historical importance—notably the *Gazzetta del Popolo* of Turin. The Turin committee of the National Society for the History of the Risorgimento has commissioned Count Sforza of the Royal Archives of Turin to prepare a volume from unpublished material in the archives, which will undoubtedly be of great importance for Italian history, and the life of Cavour from 1858 to 1861. And Francesco Ruffini is, bringing out a valuable volume of essays upon the earlier years of Cavour, with about forty unpublished letters.

Dr. Fredrich Giesebrecht, professor of theology at the University of Königsberg, died about a week ago in his fifty-ninth year. He was the author of "Der Wendepunckt des Buches Hiob"; "Kommentar zum Propheten Jeremia"; "Friede für Babel und Bibel," etc.

Amand von Schweiger-Lerchenfeld, who died recently at Vienna and who was the editor of *Der Stein der Weisen*, is best known for his books on travel, which include: "Von Ozean zu Ozean," "Von der Donau zum Kaukasus," and "Im Reiche der Zyklopen."

Science.

Hardy Plants for Cottage Gardens. By Helen R. Albee. New York: Henry Holt & Co. $1.60 net.

Among School Gardens. By M. Louise Greene. New York: Charities Publication Committee. $1.25.

At this time of the year, when flower gardens are in full bloom in northern

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latitudes, many an amateur wishes souvenirs of favorite beds and corners. How best to obtain them is explained in the chapter on Photography of Flowers in Helen R. Albee's book, whose advice is based on three years' experience, and who presents nearly seventy illustrations as specimens of her work. They are good of their kind, though some are rather vague, in spite of her having doubtless followed the fundamental principle that "crisp details add beauty to a flower photograph, and these demand a long exposure and a small diaphragm."

Some gardening books are for beginners, others for those who have had experience. "Hardy Plants for Cottage Gardens" contains much that will help both classes of readers. The seed catalogues say, for instance, that poppies cannot be transplanted; but the author of this book transplants anything that comes along, including poppies, and seldom loses a plant. Her secret lies in pouring water at once into the hole into which the plant has been placed, thus making the ground wet down to the very tip of the roots, which is not the case if the earth is put back first and watered afterwards. She also describes a plan of her own for starting annuals, which insures plants that are more vigorous and better able to withstand drought than those started in hot-house or cold frame, and quite as early in coming into flower. She explains why perennials should be started in May instead of, as usually advised, in August. She discovered a way of coping with hollyhock rust (washing the leaves with soapsuds) when Bordeaux mixture had failed. She found out that ferns do not object to sun. She came to the conclusion that the flaming red foliage of the Virginia creeper is more decorative than any flower. Of her many failures she tells frankly and with touches of humor, as when she tried massage and absent treatment on one crippled plant; and she does not deny that she has been guilty of a thousand floricides. An amusing chapter tells of the vices of certain plants—their rapacity, improvidence, caprice, selfishness, sloth, arrogant self-seeking, and profligacy; while another chapter relates how she dealt with her enemies, among them cutworms, insects, moles—the last, she discovered, could be driven away by dropping a moth-ball in each hole. She loves to "groom" plants, and weeding is to her "a glorious waste of time." In short, her book is one of exceptional value and interest to all who like to take care of flowers.

The number of such is likely to be increased enormously within the next decade, thanks to the school gardens which are multiplying nearly everywhere at a surprising rate. In Cleveland alone, according to the author of "Among School Gardens," there are more than 50,000 home gardens due to the influence of the school garden and the efforts of the Home Gardening Association. Cleveland and Philadelphia are in America the leaders in this movement; they have placed special curators and supervisors in high official positions, with suitable appropriations for their work—work which, in the words of W. J. Spillman, is "of national importance, . . . destined to have a profound influence on educational thought and educational method in this country." The author herself names and describes in five pages eleven advantages that follow from these gardens. She might have added as a twelfth that they breed cheerfulness; for, as one little girl said in her answer to the question why she liked to work in the school garden: "We don't mind if it rains because it makes the plants grow."

The school garden has won the children wherever it has been tried. It freshens the wearisome tasks of the schoolroom and brightens the dullest pupils. The joy of individual ownership is taught in some varieties of these schools, and much is gained by "placing responsibility on the child, without which character is not developed." But it must always be borne in mind by the teacher that "a child gets profit out of the garden in direct proportion as he puts himself into it." The government has recognized the importance of this movement by publishing a large number of bulletins on school gardens and allied topics. A list of these and other pertinent publications takes up the last 32 pages of this timely volume.

Longmans, Green & Co. announce the following books in science: "Glaucoma, an Inquiry into the Physiology and Pathology of the Intro-Ocular Pressure," by Thomson Henderson, M. D.; "Fractures and Separated Epiphyses," by Albert James Walton, M.S., F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.; "The Principles of Gynæcology," by W. Blair Bell, B.S., M.D.; "The Essentials of Morbid Histology," by Albert S. Grunbaum, M.A., M.D.; "Dental Surgery and Pathology," by J. F. Colyer; "The Practical Design of Motor Cars," by James Gunn, lecturer on motor-car engineering at the Glasgow and West of Scotland Technical College; "Practical Photo-Micrography," by Edwin Barnard, lecturer in microscopy, King's College, London; "An Introduction to Bacteriological and Enzyme Chemistry," by Gilbert J. Fowler, D.Sc., lecturer in bacteriological chemistry in the Victoria University of Manchester; "Lectures on the Chemistry of Paints," by J. Newton Friend, Ph.D.; "Hereditary Characters and Their Modes of Transmission," by Charles Edward Walker, M.Sc.

The present existence of the beaver, or "castor," in France has a pathetic interest from the history of this animal in our own northernmost States and Canada. In the time of Julius Cæsar Paris had its "beaver meadows"; and its Beaver River—La Bièvre—has but lately been reduced to a sewer and covered over where it passes through the Gobelins quarter. Beavers were plentiful to the end of the Middle Ages, but the demands of luxury for their skins, chiefly for the hats and coats of fashionable men and women, led to their wholesale destruction. It is centuries since a beaver has been found in the valley of the Seine. In the valley of the Rhone, near Avignon, there are still a dozen or so beaver villages, but the animal has adapted himself to changed circumstances. It would be impossible for him now to cut down the young trees and build beaver dams. He has learned to burrow in the bank, and beats the mud into shape for his home with his tail, just as he used to plaster his dams. Count Potocki has set some of these overcivilized beavers free in the forests of his Polish estates, and they have resumed their building habits of three hundred years ago. It seems difficult to explain this inherited instinct, so long unexercised, by physiological nerve processes only.

New light on Mars is always welcome, when it comes from trustworthy sources. M. Antoniadi of Paris is everywhere recognized as an authority, from his long years of critical observation and rational interpretation of the things he has seen—and not seen. He reports in the last *Astronomische Nachrichten* his conclusions from inspection of the latest French and American photographs of Mars, directed toward a solution of the long-disputed question of the darkish streak that has been thought to surround the shrinking polar cap. Professor Lowell and his coterie of observers have always drawn this line unmistakable and of considerable breadth; invariably fringing the polar cap, no matter what its dimension. Also they have described it as bluish in tint. This, Professor Lowell boldly asseverates, is water, released from the ice-bound snows of the Arean arctic; and the shrinking fringe of sapphire conducts it into the radiating canals; and the radiating canals in turn scatter it in all longitudes equatorward. Among the astronomical fraternity generally there has always been grave doubt about the reality of these canals newly announced at Flagstaff with every returning apparition of Mars. There yet remain very excellent reasons for skepticism as to the existence of water on that palpably desert planet. In the first place, so trustworthy a spectroscopist as W. W. Campbell, director of the Lick Observatory, on repeated occasions and under exceptionally favorable conditions, fails to find any evidence whatever of water vapor in the atmosphere of Mars. There is evidence, too, that the surface temperature is low enough to prohibit the liquid state of water; there are not enough clouds ever seen in the act of carrying moisture poleward to supply the supposed canals by the melting of whitish polar caps, supposed to be snow and ice. Now come the photographs which M. Antoniadi has scrutinized at length, and from which he is obliged to conclude that the darkish blue fringe round the polar cap does not exist in the photographs at all. Clearly, therefore, its seeming visibility to observers at the telescope is a purely subjective phenomenon.

Prof. Paolo Mantegazza, an anthropologist and popular writer on science, died a fortnight since at Spezzia, aged sixty-four.

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The death is reported from Halle, at the age of seventy-two, of Dr. Hermann Schwartze, an aurist of wide reputation. He was editor of the *Archiv für Ohrenheilkunde* and had distinguished himself also as an author on medical subjects in his field.

Drama and Music.

Cassell will soon publish Sir Herbert Tree's book, "Henry VIII and his Court," in connection with the revival of Shakespeare's "Henry VIII" at His Majesty's Theatre.

Admirers of the descriptive writings of the distinguished poet and critic, William Winter, will welcome the latest and final edition of his "Shakespeare's England," which has just been published by Moffat, Yard & Co. The essays have been so carefully revised and enriched by so much fresh material that they might almost be described as new. Moreover, the order of them has been changed, as the author's preface says, in order to make them suggestive of a practical, pleasurable line of travel. The rearrangement will enhance the value of the book to the tourist, while it in no way diminishes the potent charm of Mr. Winter's sympathetic scholarship, poetic feeling, and graceful diction. No better equipped or more interesting guide than he could be desired amid the Shakespearean memories either in Warwickshire or old London. The illustrations in which the volume abounds are admirable. It is good news to hear that supplementary companion volumes of Mr. Winter's later sketches, dealing with historic scenes and places in Scotland, Ireland, and the United States, are in course of preparation.

"Chantecler" in English—translated by Gertrude Hall (Duffield)—makes better sense than was generally to be expected. Not that the protagonist himself was untranslatably Frenchy. Nearly every one has felt, we believe, that except for his "cocorico," which, fortunately, has here been rendered by "cock-a-doodle-doo," Chantecler would fit well enough in any barnyard the world over. But the outward trappings of the play were so complete, apparently so meticulous, even—for instance, the stage directions in sonnet form—that it seemed hazardous to exploit such a *tour de force* in another language. But that this has now been done, and in a way that is likely to prove satisfactory to English and American audiences, speaks much, both for the play itself and for the translator. Miss Hall has, except in rare instances, avoided verse, which would have made an un-English hodge-podge of language often so technical, and in dealing with strictly French wit, of which there is so much in the play, has sought for American equivalents. The result is that much of the lyric intensity has disappeared and that lines have repeatedly been blunted, just as the colloquialisms of Aristophanes have often gone awry in English garb. And yet, even as it stands, the play is remarkably lyric and remarkably witty. The first is due to the fact that the central idea—Chantecler's belief in the power of his voice to rouse the day—lends itself inevitably to poetic treatment, whether in verse or in prose. We give a few examples of Miss Hall's workmanship. For Rostand's:

Toi qui sèches les pleurs des moindres graminées
Qui fais d'une fleur morte un vivant papillon,
Lorsqu'on voit, s'effeuillant comme des destinées,
Trembler au vent des Pyrénées
Les amandiers du Roussillon,
Je t'adore, Soleil!

the English reads, very successfully:

O thou that driest the tears of the meanest among weeds
And dost of a dead flower make a living butterfly—
Thy miracle, wherever almond-trees
Shower down the wind their scented shreds,
Dead petals dancing in a living swarm—
I worship thee, O Sun!

Perhaps the most successful of Miss Hall's renderings where she attempts verse is a song in the last act:

[The Nightingale and the Toads, *alternately*]
I sing! for Wind, that harper free,
And music bubbling from the well—
—We welter in malignity!

And fragrance floating from the lea,
Of meadow-sweet and pimpernel—
—The Toads, croak! croak! the Toads are we!—
etc.

Each successive "all star" performance is an object lesson, illustrative of the progressive decadence of contemporaneous acting. The revival of Sardou's "Diplomacy" in the Maxine Elliott Theatre on Tuesday evening was no exception to this rule. The cast, judged by existing standards, was of uncommon excellence. Several of the individual impersonations were exceedingly good. The representation considered as a whole, however, was of second rate quality only. Often effective in critical situations, it was markedly deficient in that intelligent coöperation which can only be secured by training in a genuine stock company, in delicacy of by-play, and especially in cultivated diction and distinction of manner. "Diplomacy" is not a great play, but it is an extraordinarily deft and ingenious piece of dramatic mechanism, made by a master craftsman for the use of accomplished comedians, and it would be very difficult, if not impossible, to organize a scratch company to-day capable of doing it full justice. In any case long rehearsal and competent supervision—both lacking in the present instance—would be indispensable. But even a second rate performance of a really clever and constantly interesting drama is a rare phenomenon in this degenerate period of the stage and doubtless will command public attention. A word of special praise is due to the refined and virile Orloff of Thurlow Bergen, the vital characterization of Baron Stein by Theodore Roberts, and the sympathetic embodiment of Dora by Chrystal Herne.

The death is reported from Paris of Arthur Coquard, musical critic, and the composer of many songs, orchestral music, and pieces for separate instruments. His most notable work as a critic is his "Histoire de la musique en France," which was crowned by the Academy. He was born in 1846, and was a member of the Legion of Honor.

From Regensburg comes news of the death, at the age of seventy, of Franz Xaver Haberl, an authority on ecclesiastical music. His early training was prophetic of his later attainments, since he prepared himself for the priesthood, and at the same time to become a musician. Having gained a reputation as choirmaster at the cathedral in Passau, he soon became organist of the Santa Maria dell' Anima at Rome. Later he devoted himself to investigations in sacred music, for which he was made a doctor of theology by the University of Würzburg, and he founded at Regensburg a school of church music. Chief among his publications is a complete edition of Palestrina's works in thirty-three volumes.

Art.

Cylinders and Other Ancient Seals in the Library of J. Pierpont Morgan. By W. Hayes Ward. New York: Privately printed.

The Seal Cylinders of Western Asia. By W. Hayes Ward. 428 pages, 1,315 drawings. Washington: The Carnegie Institution. $7.

The two works recently published by Dr. Ward on seal cylinders represent the result of long labor. In fact, for the past twenty years and more, Dr. Ward has spent all the time that he could spare from his editorial labors as editor of the *Independent* on the study of the thousands of seal cylinders of all kinds and all ages scattered in the museums and private collections of this country and Europe. Mr. Morgan is, therefore, doubly fortunate in having so valuable a collection of these objects—nearly 300 cylinder seals, carefully selected—and in securing the services of Dr. Ward in the preparation of the catalogue of his collection.

The volume is far more than a mere enumeration and reproduction of the seals themselves. Dr. Ward has made a division of the subjects represented on the seals, as only he, through his long experience, could do. In addition to an introduction on the general character and the various classes of cylinders, he has added a careful description of each specimen and well-executed reproductions in a large series of plates. With Dr. Ward as our guide in a survey of Mr. Morgan's valuable collection, we can, in fact, follow the views held by the Babylonians, Assyrians, and Hittites in regard to the gods and goddesses worshipped by them, and can also trace in outline the development of the most important Babylonian and Assyrian myths.

To an even larger extent we are enabled to do this through the elaborate work on seal cylinders in general, for which the Carnegie Institution has stood sponsor. There need be no hesitation in saying that Dr. Ward's volume represents one of the most valuable contributions to science made by the Institution. It is a work of the first order, and will long hold its place as the standard book on this subject. The 1,315 drawings, made from originals or from casts, represent virtually the entire material

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so far accessible. Not that Dr. Ward has reproduced every seal cylinder known, but all the types and all important variations of the types are represented. In the case of his larger work, he has preferred the reproduction by the human hand, because in so many cases the cylinders are so worn, or the engraving is so superficial, that even by the best process the necessary details could not be brought out. To be sure, in many cases even the draughtsman has failed to see all that Dr. Ward's practised eye descried, so that at times there is a discrepancy between the description of an object and its reproduction. A defect of the reproductions, which must be noticed, is the frequently inadequate manner in which the inscriptions on these cylinders have been drawn. In both works, in fact, more attention should have been given to these inscriptions, which are always interesting, and even of great importance from various points of view. Professor Price of the University of Chicago has given translations of many of them, but a number have unfortunately been left untranslated. The inscriptions, it should be added, are often very difficult both to read and to interpret, so that in many cases corrections are needed. We hope that Professor Price, well qualified by his long experience, will take up this part of the study of seal cylinders in greater detail than was possible in Dr. Ward's two volumes, and give us an exhaustive study of the subject.

Dr. Ward's introduction to the Carnegie volume is of special interest. For the first time, we now obtain a complete survey of the extensive field covered by these curious objects, which, from serving a practical purpose as the identification of an individual's signature to a document, developed into amulets. It will come as a surprise to many to learn of the various materials of which these cylinders are made—shell, marble, bone, and all kinds of stones. Dr. Ward distinguishes more than twenty shapes, and incidentally shows how the seal cylinder developed into the seal ring.

Attention should also be directed to the chapters on the representations of the Sun God, and on the two chief figures in the national epic of the Babylonians—Gilgamesh and Eabani—whose adventures were a particularly favorite design among the cylinder engravers.

In the closing chapters, the general bearings of the seal cylinders on the Babylonian culture, and on the origin of the civilizations that grew up in the Euphrates Valley, are set forth. Dr. Ward believes he has found evidence, especially in the animals represented on the seal cylinders, that this culture originated in a region to the east of the valley. The force of his argument that the non-Semitic population of Babylon, known as the Sumerians, came from a mountainous region to the east or northeast will be admitted. On the other hand, it must not be forgotten that the Babylonian culture is essentially hybrid in character, representing a blending of elements contributed by Semites and non-Semites. The coming of the Sumerians furnished a stimulus to a culture that must already have existed, though, perhaps, in faint beginnings, before these foreigners invaded the land. Dr. Ward himself emphasizes the strong influence exerted by Hittite conceptions on the art and the designs represented in the cylinders, and we now know from other sources that this Hittite influence began as early at least as 2,000 B. C.; the Assyrian Empire appears, as a matter of fact, to have been founded by a branch of the Hittites. We have, therefore, in this case another factor that must be taken into consideration in accounting for the development, and perhaps even for the rise, of the Euphratean civilization. The Amorites, coming from the north and northwestern sections of Syria, represent another factor whose importance has only lately begun to be recognized. Until we know more about these Amorites and who they were, and above all until Hittite inscriptions shall have been definitely deciphered, it is impossible to reach satisfactory conclusions as to the origin of the Babylonian-Assyrian culture. Dr. Ward's work, however, represents an important contribution also to this problem, and it is safe to predict that in the future phases of the question the material from the seal cylinders so admirably put together by him will play a considerable part.

Measures are being taken to prevent the decay of several important Roman monuments. The wild fig-trees, which were menacing the structure of the Arch of Titus in the Forum, have been removed. Portions of the preserves in the Church of S. Maria Antiqua will be moved an inch or two from the walls and a space left behind the pictures, to insure dryness. The frescoes of the House of Livia on the Palatine are receiving careful attention. That of Io Guarded by Argus, has become warped and is to be flattened out, while the others have been relieved from the coating of wax which had been applied to them.

William Holman-Hunt, the painter, who, with John Everett Millais, started the original Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood, died last week in London, at the age of eighty-three. As a youth his fondness for drawing was discovered by his father, and he was sent to an auctioneer's office, where he made a poor clerk. Not for three or four years was he allowed to enter upon his real vocation. He tried three times at the Academy before he got in as a student, and the father, who had only timidly consented to the experiment of art, became more anxious than ever. At the Academy Hunt first met Millais, who was only fifteen, two years younger than Hunt, but who had already won the principal medal in the antique. The two soon became impressed by the purity of Pre-Raphaelite art, and the Brotherhood resulted from this conviction. The list of Holman-Hunt's paintings includes: Hark, the portrait of a child and his first picture to be exhibited at the Royal Academy; The Light of the World, at Keble College, Oxford; Christian Priests Escaping from Persecution of Druids, London Bridge, Nazareth, Egyptian Girl, St. Swithin, all in the Taylor Buildings Museum, Oxford; Shadow of Death, Fine Art Gallery, Manchester; Finding of Christ in the Temple, Valentine and Sylvia, in Fine Art Gallery, Birmingham; The Triumph of the Innocent, Fine Art Gallery, Liverpool; Isabella and the Pot of Basil; May Morning on Magdalen Tower; Holy Fire in Church of the Sepulchre, Jerusalem; The Lady of Shalott; a life-sized version of The Light of the World in St. Paul's Cathedral. In 1905 he published his "Pre-Raphaelitism and the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood."

A dispatch from Paris announces the death of the sculptor Emmanuel Frémiet, on Saturday. He was born in Paris on December 15, 1824, was a grand officer of the Legion of Honor and a member of the Institute of France. He is probably best known to the general public through his equestrian statue in gilded bronze of Jeanne D'Arc in the Place de Rivoli in Paris. He gained a great reputation as a modeller of animals. One of his pieces was the sensational Gorilla Carrying Off a Woman, but his finest work is the Wounded Dog Running, which is in the Luxembourg.

The death is announced of Prof. Johannes Niessen, an historical painter and for many years curator of the Städtische Museum at Cologne. He lived to the advanced age of eighty-nine. Religious pictures, portraits, and landscapes are included in his works.

Finance.

"APATHY."

When the long decline on the Stock Exchange ended, towards the close of last July, in a violent spasm of demoralization, recovery began which retraced, within a month, perhaps one-fourth of the preceding loss in prices. This upward movement was in turn succeeded by a somewhat abrupt reaction; and then the stock market seemed to go out of business. During the three or four past weeks, it has stood practically motionless. On one day, a week or two ago, total transactions on the New York Stock Exchange were the smallest of any day since the panic of 1907. Where "million-share days" were commonplace incidents, not so very far back, there has come a long succession of days in which 300,000 shares were above the average. Wall Street described the market, in its own vernacular, as "dead."

But even a "dead" market has by tradition the habit of responding with receding prices to distinctly unfavorable news, and it was therefore with a

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good deal of interest that the Stock Exchange was watched at its opening last Tuesday, when the morning newspapers contained the extraordinary figures of the Maine election. It had been financial expectation and prediction that a real political upheaval in the November Congressional elections—a genuine "landslide" to the Democratic party—would excite in conservative financial circles uncertainty and perhaps misgiving, and here was the Maine election, a familiar omen of the country's November vote, giving the State to the Democratic party for the first time in thirty years, and placing in that party's hands the choice of United States Senator from Maine. It was open to any one's conjecture what the stock market would do. What it actually did, on the first day after this surprising news, was to advance with a more positive display of activity than it had shown in many days, and it continued to advance the next day.

No doubt it would be premature to assume that this is to be the continuous attitude of financial markets towards the politics of the coming autumn. Wall Street declared, this week, that markets were welcoming the prospects of a Democratic House and a Republican Senate, as a check upon hasty legislation. Perhaps this is so; perhaps not. But there is this much at least to say—that the stock market has not responded as was expected to what it had put on its calendar as unsettling news. Mr. Roosevelt would make a radical speech; the Stock Exchange would declare, in its private exchange of views, that it ought to be alarmed, that it was alarmed. But it turned out, apparently, to have been more alarmed than was the market. The Vermont election figures, with their rather emphatic indication of a general reversal of majorities in November, appear in the morning papers. Professional Wall Street asks itself, Is not this disturbing? and promptly answers that it is. But the stock market refused to be disturbed. Now comes an actual advance on the news from Maine. On the whole, then, the present experience would seem to indicate, either that the autumn's financial terrors had been overdrawn, or else that the market, with all its apathy, has developed very respectable resisting powers.

It is not alone the stock market which has failed to realize recent expectations. There has been more or less wonderment in financial circles, during several weeks, as to why the Bank of England did not advance its official discount rate, or why the New York money market did not somehow or other tighten in response to the excessively rapid fall in the surplus bank reserve September 3—as to why, in short, the long-predicted autumn stringency in money did not materialize. Some people said the stringency was slow in coming because everybody had expected it. There is something in that, no doubt, but not much more than is involved in the familiar principle that what every one fears, every one prepares for.

But of one thing we may be reasonably certain. If the financial history of 1910 to date had been what a good part of Wall Street, in December, 1909, expected it to be, we should have had all the tight money this September that anybody wanted, and all the Wall Street agitation over the news from Vermont and Maine, that the most confirmed alarmist could have expected. Subsequent developments showed on what very thin ice the conductors of the spectacular boom of 1909 were skating. The New York banks were not in a wholesome situation; their own resources, even to the eye of the Stock Exchange, were overstrained with their efforts to support the Wall Street speculation. They had invoked the aid of London, and the Bank of England had interfered, quite unmoved at the accusations of silliness and hysteria which were flung at its head from irritated Wall Street.

Nobody repeats those charges now, because every man of sense and observation has discovered, from the later history of the London company flotations and the London "rubber boom," that the stolid bank directors had their eyes open, after all. Similarly, our own interior banks were not enthusiastic about assuming Wall Street's burden, after their habit of 1906 and 1905. There were those who reproached these institutions with timidity, but the much later reports of the country's national banks to the comptroller revealed what a crushing burden of their own home obligations must have been piling then on the shoulders of our inland banks. Wall Street, in fact, was the one locality which failed to see the truth, and the fact that it so long refused to see or recognize it doubtless explains why its own particular reckoning was so violent when it came.

But speculative Wall Street eventually put its own house in order more thoroughly than either London or the West, and the sequel of that seven months' season of liquidation was the present easy money market. Any one who talks, in London or New York, of the Bank of England's singular failure to apply the lessons of last autumn, when it waited so long with a 2½ per cent. bank rate that it had to double the rate within fifteen days, when Wall Street descended on it, must have failed to recognize just what has happened since that time. One does not often see high rates in a great money market of the world with the Stock Exchange all but out of business.

There is, no doubt, the possibility of poor business this autumn, and some necessary readjustment of the finances of a few unlucky corporations. But we had a pretty startling chapter of that sort of thing in the autumn of 1903, and money was very cheap throughout the season. There is politics, and politics causes fright. But politics excited considerably more serious alarm in the autumn of 1900, and the money market hardly moved. The explanation was the same on both occasions; Wall Street speculation had descended to earth; values were on a reasonable level; speculators had no demands to make from the money market. It is a safeguarded situation of that nature for which the Stock Exchange was unconsciously preparing in last summer's prolonged decline.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Alcott. The Louisa Alcott Story Book. Edited for schools by F. E. Coe. Boston: Little, Brown. 50 cents.
Ames, F., jr. By Reef and Trail: Bob Leach's Adventures in Florida. Scribner.
Bazin, R. The Barrier. Trans. by M. D. Frost. Scribner. $1 net.
Bond, A. R. The Master Preacher. Amer. Tract Co. $1 net.
Broadhurst, C. N. Wireless Messages: Possibilities through Prayer. Revell. $1 net.
Coal Report. (28th annual.) Illinois Bureau of Labor Statistics. Springfield.
Cooper, E. H. My Brother the King. Lane. $1.50.
Cunnington, S. Stories from Dante. Crowell. $1.50 net.
Deacon, R. M. Bernard Shaw. Lane Co. $1 net.
Dumont, H. A Golden Fancy and Other Poems. Boston: Chapple Pub. Co.
Eaves, L. History of California Labor Legislation. Berkeley: Univ. of Cal.
Gibson, C. The Refugee. Century Co. $1.25 net.
Golden & Silk's First and Second Year in Hebrew. New York: S. Druckerman.
Grey, Z. The Heritage of the Desert. Harper. $1.50.
Hall, E. C. Sally Ann's Experience. Boston: Little, Brown. 50 cents.
Homer's Iliad. 2 vols. Translated by P. Cummings. Boston: Little, Brown. $3 net.
Howells, W. D. My Mark Twain: Reminiscences and Criticisms. Harper. $1.40 net.
Hunter, W. C. Brass Tacks, "Capsule Optimism." Chicago: Reilly & Britton Co.
James, G. W. The Grand Canyon of Arizona: How to See It. Boston: Little, Brown. $1.50 net.
Lee, A. The Border of the Lake. Boston: Sherman, French. $1 net.

Financial.

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M'Donald, E. B., and Dalrymple, J. Gerda in Sweden; Boris in Russia; Betty in Canada; Fritz in Germany. Boston: Little, Brown. 60 cents each.
McDowell, W. F. In the School of Christ. Revell. $1.25 net.
Mason, A. E. W. At the Villa Rose. Scribner. $1.50.
Mayer, A. G. Medusæ of the World. Vol. III. Carnegie Inst. of Washington.
Menander. Four Plays of Menander. Edited, with introduction, notes, critical appendix, etc., by Edward Capps. Boston: Ginn.
Monroe, W. S. Bohemia and the Cechs. Boston: Page. $3.
Muckensturm, L. Louis' Every Woman's Cook Book. Boston: Caldwell Co.
Nash, L. L. Early Morning Scenes in the Bible. Revell. $1 net.
Paine, R. D. A Cadet of the Black Star Line. Scribner. $1.25.
Rice, A. L. Sun-Ways of Song. Boston: Sherman, French. $1 net.
Seitz, D. C. Elba and Elsewhere. Harper. $1.25, net.
Serviss, G. P. Round the Year with the Stars. Harper. $1 net.
Shaw, B. Socialism and Superior Brains. Lane Co. 75 cents net.
Stephenson, G. T. Race Distinctions in American Law. D. Appleton. $1.50 net.
Surface, G. T. The Story of Sugar. D. Appleton $1 net.
Van Peyma, P. W. The Why of the Will. Boston: Sherman, French. 80 cents net.
Waller, M. E. Flamsted Quarries. Boston: Little, Brown. $1.50.
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